

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Past Mayoral Madness

Sinister Sultans of Baghdad-By-the-Bay

By Larry Beresford

Anyone who thinks that this year's San Francisco mayoral race has been particularly hard-fought and that the private peccadillos of office-seekers have begun to dominate politics should take a close look at the city's mayoral history. Some of the previous holders of the city's highest office have established a record of colorful and outrageous behavior that Messrs. Agnos, Boas, Molinari, *et al.* would be hard-pressed to match.

Take, for instance, the election of 1879 and Ian S. Kalloch, minister of the city's Baptist Metropolitan Church. According to contemporary accounts, Kalloch was a fiery preacher and silver-tongued orator. In 1879 he ran on the California Workingman's Party ticket to succeed Mayor Andrew Jackson Bryant, who had been disgraced by anti-Chinese riots two years before.

However Charles De Young, along with brother Michael the publisher and editor of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, took violent objection to Kalloch's campaign. According to Issel and Cherny (in *San Francisco 1865-1932: Politics, Power and Urban Development*), "De Young published repeated attacks on Kalloch, likened him to an 'unclean leper,' revealed he had once stood trial for adultery, and added other charges." The *Chronicle* also revealed how Kalloch had lost his pastorate in Boston over the adultery charge.

Rev. Kalloch responded to De Young's attacks both from the pulpit and from a platform erected in front of his church, labeling the De Young brothers as "moral lepers," "hybrid whelps of sin and shame," and "hyenas of society."

The day after Kalloch made his remarks, De Young tried unsuccessfully to kill him with a pistol, shooting Kalloch in the chest and side. The minister continued to campaign from his sick bed, however, and won handily four months later—aided, no doubt, by a significant sympathy vote.

But that was not the end of it. De Young,



The Rev. Ian Kalloch is one of the more outrageous public servants featured in Larry Beresford's story on San Francisco's past mayors, starting this page. Kalloch won election in 1879 from his sick bed, having been shot by an angry newspaper publisher. For the lowdown on those seeking to fill the city's highest post in 1988, see the results of a Voice survey of the candidates for mayor, pages 15 to 18. Photo courtesy of the San Francisco Archives, San Francisco Public Library

indicted on assault charges, went east to seek substantiation of the claims he'd printed about Kalloch in the *Chronicle*. On his return, De Young published a pamphlet entitled "A Beastly Priest Becomes a Priestly Demagogue: The Slimy Trail of the Rev. I. S. Kalloch from Maine to California."

What happened next, in April of 1880, is described in Lewis Byington's *History of San Francisco*: "Kalloch's son, learning that the *Chronicle* intended to make further personal charges, appeared unexpectedly at the office of the newspaper

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Harry Roth's Return from The Voyage of The Damned

By Jeff Kaliss

If you've encountered Harry Roth greeting diners at Julie's Supper Club on Folsom Street or putzing around his property on Sanchez Street, you probably haven't guessed at the tortuous route he traveled to get to these comfortable places. His spectacles, quick smile and gentle Germanic syllables impart the image of a well-heeled Old World uncle.

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Evictions of Elderly—A Sorry Sign Of the Times

By Denise Minor

An elderly widow lives comfortably in a San Francisco Victorian that she has rented for 40 years, paying \$200 a month for an apartment that could go for four times that price. But the building is sold, and the woman is evicted.

Out in the housing market, she can find nothing affordable except in neighborhoods where she doesn't dare walk, even in the daytime. Yet that's where she goes to spend her golden years, cloistered in a housing project.

Sounds like the script for a melodrama. But it is a scene that, with some variation, has been played out again and again in this city, and may be the very real fate for at least four Noe Valley seniors who've lost their homes this year. And it is exactly the kind of scenario the Old St. Mary's Housing Committee cites in its attempt to make the city take a stronger stand on tenants' rights.

"We believe very strongly that there ought to be affordable housing in this city," said Director Paul Bloyd of Old St. Mary's Housing Committee, a tenant advocacy group centered at 660 California St. "People are being priced out of the market, and something must be done. We think legislation is part of the answer."

Support for Eviction Controls

Since July, the committee has backed new legislation authored by Supervisor Harry Britt that would tighten restrictions on evictions and rent increases. Under the present law, if a landlord evicts a tenant in order to live in the tenant's apartment, the landlord must reside in the unit for at least one year following the eviction. Britt's proposal would discourage gratuitous evictions by increasing the minimum landlord residency to two years.

As it stands now, a rental property of four units or less is exempt from rent control if the landlord lives in one of the units. But when a new owner or former absentee

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Who will fill her frock?



See pages 15-18 for the results of the *Voice* survey of the candidates for mayor.



Harry Roth learned cooking from his mother, with whom he crossed the ocean on the doomed German ship St. Louis in 1939. He now cares for the kitchen at the popular Julie's Supper Club on Folsom Street. Photo by Joel Abramson

• Senior Evictions •

Continued from Page 1

landlord moves into his or her apartment building, forcing eviction of a tenant, he or she can't automatically raise rents. The owner must live there six months before the building becomes exempt from rent control. Britt's proposal would increase that period to one year.

The Board of Supervisors was scheduled to consider the rent control package Oct. 13, but then postponed the vote until Oct. 26.

Members of the Old St. Mary's Housing Committee met to rally support for the proposal Oct. 7, and at least half the 55-member audience was of retirement age. "That's how it always is," said Bloyd. "It's a big issue for seniors right now."

Fallout from Scalione Sales

In Noe Valley, at least four seniors have been adversely affected by house sales in the past few months. Most of the changeovers were repercussions from the January death of wealthy landlord Theodore Scalione, formerly of 130 Vicksburg St.

As reported in the September issue of the *Voice*, one of Scalione's houses, a Victorian cottage at 133 Vicksburg St., was left to elderly friends and then sold to Michael Shaposhnikor. At the end of July, Shaposhnikor evicted two sisters—Cal McCarthy, 83, who had lived there 40 years, and Ann O'Leary, 79, who had lived there 12 years—in the hope of demolishing the house and constructing a three-unit complex. The San Francisco Planning Commission denied the construction permit, however, and the case is now on appeal.

Another tenant affected by the sale of Scalione property is Rita Spooler, who's

lived at 3857 23rd St. for 48 years. Her building, along with three others (100 to 106 Vicksburg, 116 to 122 Vicksburg, and 3861 to 3865 23rd St.), was inherited by Scalione's housekeeper, Juana Ramirez, who immediately put them on the market through B.J. Droubi Real Estate on 24th Street.

Last month, Spooler expected to get her 30-day eviction notice at the end of October when the sale of the property was scheduled to go through. And she had no idea where she would be in November. "I hate to leave Noe Valley, but the rents here are so high," she said.

30-year Resident Has to Move

Seventy-year-old Jean Goden, who has lived at 429 Vicksburg St. for 30 years, has six months to find a new place. The building where she lives was sold in October.

Even though Goden is sorry she's losing her home, she can see the other side of the issue. "The owners have to get money to pay the loan they took out to buy this," she said, referring to her neighbors, Andrea and Carl Gosline, who recently bought the building from Gerry Lucy. "I can see their point."

When Goden looked into buying the building herself in 1976, it was going for \$25,000. This year the price was about \$260,000. So her rent will go from \$175 to \$900 a month six months from now.

The Goslines say they looked for a year for a house they could afford, but realized it would be impossible unless they found a property with a rental unit attached to help pay the mortgage. When the very house they were living in came up for sale, it was like a dream come true.

Andrea Gosline, who has suggested that Goden find a roommate to make her two-bedroom apartment more affordable, said she considered not buying the building because she had become good friends with her neighbor over the past five years. The Goslines realized with deep regret, she said, that they'd have to raise the rent so high Goden would be forced

to move.

"We didn't want to hurt Jean," said Gosline. "But the building was up for sale, and someone would have bought it anyway."

Long Wait for Senior Housing

Goden says she is not bitter about leaving, but is very frustrated in her search for affordable housing. "I'm running into all kinds of problems," she said. "There are waiting lists of between 100 and 300 people for many of the [subsidized] apartments."


Twenty years ago, she probably could have gotten federal subsidies for rent under Section 8 funds, but those are almost impossible to get now. Goden said she phoned the San Francisco Housing Authority to get on a waiting list for senior housing, but that the agency only took applications in April and May.

A spokesperson at the Housing Authority said it might accept new applications next March, however. The agency manages about 20 buildings in the city, ranging in size from 70 to 200 apartments. Rent equals 30 percent of a tenant's income.

Goden has also investigated residential hotels, but found that the desirable ones have yearlong waiting lists. She's heard of a beautiful senior citizen complex in the East Bay called Cherry Blossom, where meals are included with rent. The problem is, it costs \$1,125 a month. Another possibility is to buy a mobile home and live in a trailer park, but Goden doesn't drive and she's afraid she would become very isolated.

So her last hope is to find someone with an inexpensive apartment or a room to rent in a house. (If anyone can help either Goden or Spooler, leave a message at the *Voice* at 821-3324.)

Bloyd, of the Old St. Mary's Housing Committee, is concerned about the fate of all the city's seniors. "It is reprehensible that people who have lived in a place all those years should be kicked out," he said. "I'm not unsympathetic to the people


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owning property. But a lot of renters simply can't buy housing in San Francisco, and you shouldn't have to own a building to live here."

Seniors interested in learning more can attend a meeting on affordable housing organized by the Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly on Oct. 28 at 8:30 a.m. at Old St. Mary's Cathedral. ☐



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Residents Dogging the Developers in the Fairmount Neighborhood

By Denise Minor

Stucco monoliths are not the kind of houses most residents in Fairmount want to see on their block, so some are organizing to take control of what is constructed in their neighborhood. And this organizing is causing waves in the development industry.

"There's a real epidemic of bulky, massive houses in San Francisco," said Al Ujcic of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association. "There has been some apathy, but now we're getting stirred up."

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association sponsored numerous meetings and a September forum on demolition and new construction in their area, Noe Valley, Glen Park and Bernal Heights. Fairmount is the neighborhood of twisty streets south of 30th Street that divides Noe Valley from Glen Park.

A Bid for Lower Height Limits

About 90 people showed up at a forum Sept. 9 at Fairmount Elementary School to hear, among other things, Supervisor Richard Hongisto speak about his proposed housing demolition moratorium.

Robert Passmore of the city Planning Department also talked about the recently passed interim zoning controls for the Richmond District, which prevent construction of buildings higher than 24 feet or higher than the average of adjacent buildings. The controls also prevent demolition of a building until plans for a replacement project are approved.

Passmore maintains that zoning laws are the key to controlling overdevelopment. "A demolition moratorium is too drastic."

Ujcic also sees hope in zoning regulations, and is advocating that stricter controls be extended to the rest of the city. "We don't want to see what has happened in the Richmond and the Sunset happen to our neighborhoods," said Ujcic. "I would like the height limits [on new construction] in the Richmond to be extended to Fairmount." The current height limit in Fairmount is 40 feet.

Resident Fears 'Richmond Specials'

Ujcic became involved in the issue this summer when he learned that realtor John Woolley planned to construct a two-

unit house, which on its downhill side would have four stories, in the vacant lot at 236 Randall St. across from Ujcic's house. Not only would the view from his house be ruined, said Ujcic, but the large, square building would not fit in with the old homes on the block. "If they had kept this in scale, we wouldn't lose our view," he said.

Ujcic is also apprehensive about what might happen *after* the building is constructed. He thinks Woolley's building might actually become a "Richmond Special," a term Ujcic applies to houses designed to look like one or two units, but easily converted to twice that number of apartments, once the Planning Department issues a building permit.

"I took their [Woolley's] plans to an architect, and he said it was possible that each of the two units could become two units. There's a lot of floor space," he said. "There isn't enough room in the neighborhood for the cars from that many apartments."

What Ujcic would like to see is a little park planted in the vacant lot, he said.

Woolley Says Plans Not 'Ugly'

Woolley dismissed Ujcic's claims as "twisted allegations." For one thing, the building will be only 30 feet high, well below the 40-foot limit, he said. "This is a selfish effort to hold on to the view he has looking through the hole between two other houses," said Woolley.

The building will not be a hulky monolith, said Woolley, because he wants to live there and certainly wouldn't design an ugly house for himself. His father, who is retired, will live in the other unit, he said.

Woolley added that he had received letters from 48 neighbors, including the two adjacent property owners, who had looked at his building plans and approved them.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Y. Yuen of 232 Randall St., next-door to the lot, wrote: "Mr. John Woolley's plans to build his beautiful house on this lot is a welcome revelation to people on Randall because it does not only eliminate the blight inherent with the vacant lot but also restores the beauty of that environment."

As for the accusation that he plans to eventually divide the place into four or more units, Woolley says, "I do not in-



A realtor faces opposition from some neighbors in his effort to build a four-story, two-unit house on this vacant lot on Randall Street. Photo by Pamela Gerard

tend to put in illegal in-laws."

The Planning Commission began review of the 236 Randall St. building plans Oct. 15, then postponed further investigation until Oct. 26. Ujcic mailed letters to all his neighbors encouraging them to attend.

Preservationist Hysteria Cited

Joe O'Donohue, president of the Residential Builders Association of San Francisco, says people have a right to become concerned with the design of new buildings on their street. But he thinks a preservationist hysteria is gripping the city and that it will cause an already expensive housing market to skyrocket.

If old buildings are torn down and larger ones constructed in their place, he maintains, the cost of the building goes down from about \$250 a square foot to \$150, and rents drop accordingly. Preserving buildings of no historical value for sentimental reasons is "racist and elitist," he said. "because it is the immigrants, the elderly and the families that cannot afford housing here."

O'Donohue does not support demolishing historical homes, such as the one at 133 Vickshurg St., which neighbors are fighting to save (see story in the September issue of the *Voice*). Nor does he approve of stucco boxes.

"Design is a legitimate issue for neighbors. We have supported the design review board, and recognized the integrity of neighborhoods. Noe Valley, for in-

stance, has a Victorian air, and that should be preserved."

But in O'Donohue's view, a small number of unscrupulous developers have failed to respect neighbors' concerns and have pulled the "Richmond Specials" that Ujcic is concerned about. They are the ones who have given developers a bad name in San Francisco and should be penalized by the city, he said.

Neighbors Should Be Vigilant

A Noe Valley realtor who attended the Fairmount forum but who prefers to remain anonymous thinks there are more than a few rotten eggs in the construction industry.

"It's the same thing all over town. They invest in a property, come in and build a big building that's not in conformity with the neighborhood, then they go their merry way," she said.

She agrees with Ujcic that developers in general are more concerned about profits than affordable housing, and is glad to see residents acquiring a watchdog attitude.

Not only should the city step up enforcement of zoning laws, she says, but residents should be on the lookout for suspicious activity. Now that the Richmond and Sunset districts have been effectively cut off to "Special" builders, she warns, they may be looking at Fairmount and Noe Valley as future targets for intense development. □

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- 11:30-12:30 pm .Ruth Heller: *Cache of Jewels*
- 12:30-1:30 pm ..Laura Jane Coates: *Goodyear
the City Cat* (Macmillan)
- 1:30-2:30 pmKathy Pelta: *Bridging the
Golden Gate* (Lerner)
- 2:30-3:30 pmLouis Sachar: *There's a Boy
in the Girl's Bathroom*
(Alfred A. Knopf)
- 3:30-4:30 pmMarilyn Sachs: *Fran Ellen's
House* (Dutton)
- 4:30-5:30 pmSusan Terris: *Nell's Quilt*
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Friday, October 30, 1987

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- 5:30-6:30 pmBaron Wolman: *The Holy Land*
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with Remarkable Women*
(Shambala Books)



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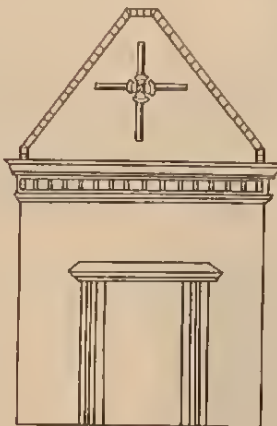
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- 11:30-12:30 pm .Karen Warner and Lonnie
Williams, authors of *Oysters*
(101 Productions). Lonnie is the
chef at the Pacific Heights Bar
& Grill.



- 12:30-1:45 pm ..James McNair, author of
Chicken and Pizza (Chronicle Books)

- 4:00-6:00 pmJim Dodge, Elaine Ratner,
authors of *The American Baker*
(Simon & Schuster). Jim is pastry
chef at the Stanford
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Autographed copies of *Ken Hom's East Meets
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Killer at the Wheel
(Seven Stones Press)
Carlton Morse is the creator
of the "One Man's Family"
and "I Love a Mystery"
radio shows.
- 2:00-3:30 pmSister Carol Anne O'Marie,
author of *A Novena for Murder*
(Dell)
- 3:00-4:00 pmCollin Wilcox, author of
Victims (Mysterious Press)
- 4:00-6:00 pmMarcia Muller, author of
The Cavalier in White
(St. Martin's Press)

Tuesday, November 3, 1987

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The Many Faces and Talents of Cecile Pineda

By Monica Levin

Novelist. Essayist. Poet. Playwright. Director. Producer.

Cecile Pineda is all of the above yet that doesn't begin to tell her story. She's also an English teacher, photographer, pianist, mother, world traveler, and 23-year resident of Noe Valley.

Pineda founded the developmental Theatre of Man, a local repertory troupe, in 1969. She wrote many of its plays during its 12-year existence, directed and produced them, even acted in them. Her first novel, *Face*, nominated for a number of awards, won two—the Sue Kaufman Award and the Commonwealth Club gold medal for best fiction written by a Californian in 1985. Now a movie contract is in the works. Her latest novel, *Frieze*, due out this month in paperback from Penguin Books, has also been widely acclaimed.

If you act impressed by her many achievements, including the fact that she's been supporting herself since the age of 14, this diminutive writer envelops you with a surprisingly deep, hearty laugh and shrugs, "It's only work. I've used what I had. I wasn't like this when I was 18. Your work has to be formed by your inner life and your personal mythology and your ghosts and your haunts and your nemesis. Everything I've written or done or been gets recycled and reappears."

Sitting in a shady patch of her Noe Street back yard on the hottest October afternoon San Francisco has ever weathered, she coolly answers a barrage of questions while mending a burlap purse. A large metal tub smaller than a kiddie pool fills with water nearby, awaiting her dip. She insists she fits into it "if I curl my toes."

Pineda's thoughts unfurl in perfectly constructed sentences punctuated by frequent injections of wry wit. Fiercely intelligent and direct, she manages to be very sure of herself in a nonthreatening way. Add in that belly laugh and you've got a likable mix.

Born in Harlem a fistful of decades ago, Pineda was the sole offspring of her Swiss mother and Mexican father. "Because there weren't other children," she recalls, "they vested in me all the vicarious ambitions they would have had for a boy. So the message was, you can do anything. I also had many restrictions: you have to be in by 7 p.m., you can't talk loud, you can't laugh the way you do. But from the standpoint of artistic and intellectual achievement, they were convinced I was going to conquer the world in at least three media!"

The Pinedas wanted Cecile to be an international concert pianist, but she knew better by the age of 10. She just didn't have the motor coordination, what she describes as "the ability to play music better and faster, with more nuance and greater coloration."

Pineda outgrew her own ambition to be a dancer when she found that roles for women were limited. A nonmusical type of training she still draws on is a fantastic grammar school education at the hands of nuns in New York City.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in English literature at Barnard College, Pineda married a physician and had their first son David, now 28. Soon after, in 1964, they moved to San Francisco into the three-story Edwardian house she still lives in today with her other son Michael, 24. Although long divorced, Pineda calls her family her crowning joy. "It doesn't matter that my home is broken now because we still have one another, but in a different way."

Pineda likes Noe Valley, calling it "a curler and nightgown neighborhood, because if I wanted to go out in my curlers and nightgown—and I have—nobody would hassle me." The only big differ-



Cecile Pineda pursues a variety of artistic expressions based on her endless curiosity and worldwide travel. Her first novel, *Face*, may soon become a movie. Photo by Beverly Sharp

ences she's seen over the years are the yuppification of 24th Street and a new stop sign on her corner. "That's very important," she stresses. "When my kids were young, Michael nearly got turned into a peanut butter sandwich because the city engineers wouldn't respond to my requests to put a stop sign there."

Tiny Giant Acts Out Fantasies

Pineda's interest in drama dates from the age of 7. Perhaps to emulate her father's theatrical bent she developed a theatre of her own where she and her little friends performed fairy tales. The smallest child, she always insisted on playing the giant. She started writing plays, later for her Theatre of Man, because she was not interested in interpreting somebody else's work—"setting words on actors" is how she describes it. "I always bent other authors' texts to my own vision in graduate school (she got her master's degree in theatre arts from San Francisco State University), so it seemed very natural to make something instead of having to bend," she recalls.

"I started a theatre company as a total unknown, without backing," she continues, "and I started working as a writer as a total unknown. That's very important to me. It's part of the work—not having a silver spoon, but coming very much unheralded and very much as an insurgent."

In 1977 Pineda read a news account in the *San Francisco Chronicle* about a poor uneducated barber in Brazil who suffered

a fall from a cliff that reduced his face to an unrecognizable pulpy mass. After years of being ostracized and persecuted, he surgically reconstructed it himself. Moved by the story but sure that someone else would write about it, Pineda waited. When no one did after four years, she began her research (she had medical background from years as a medical book editor and from her physician husband).

She hoped to talk to a plastic surgeon and observe a procedure, but immediately met resistance from the medical profession, which was very disturbed by the prospect of such a book. Since the story tells of a layperson who performed surgery on himself, it threatened the monopoly the medical profession had always wielded.

"Had I approached them with an agenda that would have thrown favorable light or good publicity their way, it would have been a different matter," says Pineda.

Written in a lyrical, evocative style, *Face* is a tale that deeply questions the concept of identity. "The deepest issue of all," Pineda explains, "is that what confers identity is the community, and without it there's nothing."

Feedback Better Than Awards

"When *Face* won two prizes, I felt it was important only because people buy books based on them," she says candidly. "As a writer, I don't need a lot of prizes or a lot of money. But I do want to feel that if I've worked on a piece, people are reading it, perhaps thinking about it, dis-

cussing it, and even fighting over it. That would be wonderful!"

"It's very gratifying to receive letters from a reading public," she goes on. "Somebody reads your book and takes the time to write you a very short letter to let you know that your very long letter [her book] has been received. That's the joy."

Pineda considers herself lucky that her second book was written at a time when *Face* had not gotten much attention and she had the protection of anonymity. "Before you're known it's much better because people aren't calling from New York asking, 'What are you working on now?' Those remarks add up to pressure. The author's name 'Cecile Pineda' has been made a commodity by my publisher. It has nothing to do with my reality at all."

Frieze developed from Pineda's 1984 trip to Indonesia. She became so entranced by the great temple of Borobudur in central Java that she began to write on the plane ride home. Set in the 10th century, it became the story of Gopal, a master Indian stone carver brought to Java to build a Buddhist monument for the aristocracy there. The 120 panels take most of his life to complete; the 120 small chapters of the book, narrated by Gopal, are pieces of a puzzle the reader puts together to fully discover its meaning.

Exotic? Yes, but Pineda insists the story is reflective of her struggles as an artist in the theatre. "I have a specific view of art—any kind of artistic endeavor, whatever the medium," she elaborates. "It's the process of living one's life and no more. It's nothing glamorous. You write your history or the history of that time as you pass through it."

"My life is pedestrian," she concludes. "I go to the supermarket once a week. What could be more predictable? I vacuum my house. I raised my kids. I have a very civilized relationship with my ex-husband. I have not moved every 1.5 years. Basically my life has been lived in very small increments."

Since Pineda has created a variety of plays, short stories, poems, and novels that go far beyond anything one would consider pedestrian, she has to be regarded as unusually modest to assess her life in such terms. Audiences fortunate enough to see the work of Theatre of Man in the '70s and early '80s got a visual taste of Cecile Pineda's talent. Now this multifaceted woman's luminous work can be found in bookstores. With a film of *Face* in the planning stages, her parents' dreams that she would conquer the world in at least three media have very nearly been achieved.

Pineda will be reading from *Frieze* at California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 11:15 a.m.; the Book Depot in Mill Valley on Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 7:30 p.m.; and Bookworks in San Francisco on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m. □

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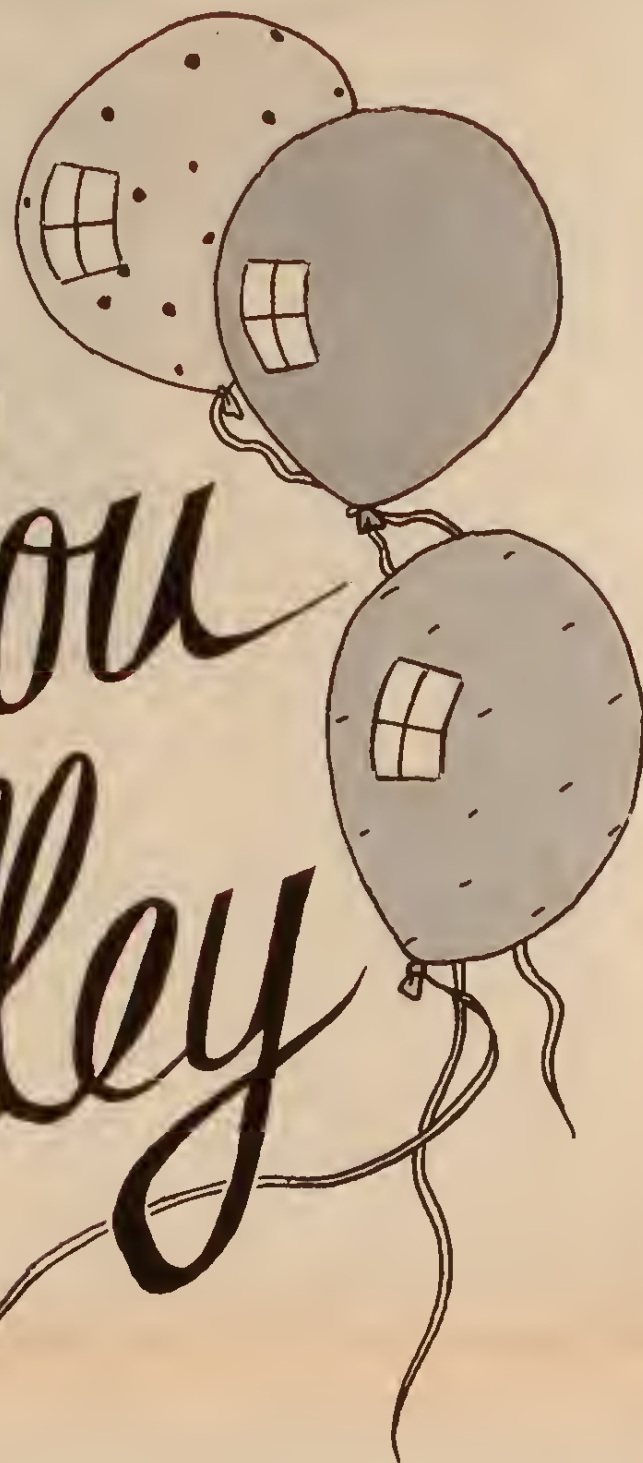
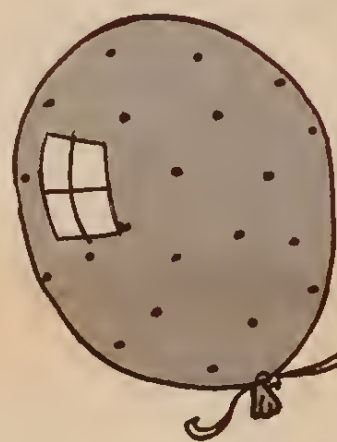


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Roth's Arduous Journey from Germany to San Francisco

Continued from Page 1

But the 57-year-old restaurateur and landlord began his voyage to the States in dire straits, as a 9-year-old Jewish refugee on board the German ship *St. Louis*.

The *St. Louis* had been charged with conveying 937 Jewish refugees, mainly German and Austrian, to Cuba in the late spring of 1939. Its journey, which made international headlines in the days preceding World War II, was later chronicled as the *Voyage of the Damned* in a book by Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan Witts and in a movie of the same title.

Ernest and Camille Roth and their son Harry had begun their exodus in the Moravian region of Czechoslovakia, where the family ran a winery, bar and restaurant. Harry grew up speaking both his father's Czech and his Viennese mother's German.

By the late 1930s, the Roths were aware of increasing anti-Semitism under Nazi influence in Germany, where they'd been accustomed to doing business and taking vacations. When the German occupation troops invaded Czechoslovakia, Ernest Roth was in possession of a visa sent by an in-law from Cuba. The Nazis were not yet shipping all Jews to concentration camps, and the Roths' visas guaranteed them safe conduct to Hamburg, from where the *St. Louis* was due to depart.

"My mother was superstitious," recalls Roth. "She said she didn't want to go on that boat because it sailed on the 13th of May. . . . My father said, 'Under these circumstances, there may not be another boat.'"

Operated by the Hamburg-America Line, the *St. Louis* in 1939 displayed a swastika flag but was captained by a fiercely independent German, Gustav Schroeder, who had little sympathy for Nazi political practices. From the day of departure, Schroeder insisted that his refugee passengers be treated as well as any shipload of Germans out for a pleasure cruise. Roth recalls the concerts and fine cuisine that enhanced the two-week ocean crossing.

What neither Schroeder nor his passengers realized was that a Nazi propaganda team, under orders from Josef Goebbels, was busy stirring up anti-Semitism in Cuba even as the ship sailed west. "They wanted to prove that even the Cubans, who were half-black, didn't want Jews," explains Roth.

Consequently, "when we got to Cuba [on May 27], they said our visas were not legitimate. . . . They said the government had changed hands." The passengers' bitter reaction to this news was worsened by the fact that many of them had paid several thousand dollars for the useless documents, and had been forced to leave most of their cash and possessions to the Nazis in Europe. (Roth's father, however, had had the foresight to transfer some funds to a British bank.)

The *St. Louis* was forced to anchor off Havana for six days while Jewish relief

organizations appealed to Cuban officials and world government leaders. The only passengers who managed to leave the ship were the two daughters of a German Jewish expatriate who had been waiting for them in Havana, and a disturbed man who had attempted suicide by slashing his wrists and jumping overboard.

Then "the boat had to leave Havana," notes Roth. "It sailed off Florida, where it lingered for another week. There were urgent calls to F.D.R. There was a vote in [the U.S.] Congress, but a lot of Dixiecrats opposed it. They said, 'There's been a depression, and we can't let another thousand people in.'"

Throughout the voyage and the crisis, Capt. Schroeder attempted to maintain well-being on the ship, forming a passengers' committee and quelling the attempts of one steward, a Nazi party functionary, to intimidate the Jews and incite the crew. "He was a very human person, this captain," recalls Roth.

Schroeder was furious at the Cubans' refusal to let the ship dock and the failure of the U.S. to provide an alternative. But on June 6 he was ordered by a cable from the Hamburg office to return the vessel to Germany.

During the return trip, Schroeder had to come to grips with food and water shortages, further threats of suicide, and an attempted mutiny. Some of the passengers had already experienced internment in German camps, and all feared being sent to the camps if they were forced to land on German soil.

Five days before he was to dock in Hamburg, Schroeder learned that the governments of Belgium, Holland, Britain and France had decided to accept the *St. Louis* Jews. The announcement was celebrated with a party, complete with singers, magicians, and comedians cracking jokes about holiday cruises to Cuba.

Ernest Roth was appointed a member of the ship's relocation committee and decided to take his own family to France because of his experience in the wine business. But the arrangements required that Harry be housed separately from his parents in a Rothschild estate near Paris. After the commencement of German bombing, the boy was shipped to another location near Bordeaux.

"It was a very strictly-run home," says Roth of his second French residence. "No one was allowed to speak German. I learned French so well that when my parents picked me up six months later, that's all I could speak." Young Roth also contracted typhoid fever during an epidemic.

The Roths had no desire to remain in Europe, and by selling their jewelry, they managed to purchase an updated set of Cuban visas. They fled the occupied portion of France, and pleaded with authorities in Marseilles for sea passage. They managed to get to Lishon, and then via a prison ship to Algeria. A train trip to Casablanca connected them with a Portuguese ship sailing west.

Intercepted by a British naval ship on the other side of the Atlantic, the Roths

were forced to stay in camps in Jamaica and Cuba until suspicions of German espionage were allayed. "So it was like a four-year voyage," reflects Roth.

After release from the camps, Roth learned Spanish and graduated from high school in Cuha. His mother, who suffered from delicate health, began to impart her gourmet Viennese skills to her son. The family relocated to New York in 1952, where Roth became the household chef after his mother's death. His father, busy establishing his wine trade, could not afford to eat out.

"I stayed there [in New York] another four years, and I couldn't get myself settled," remembers Roth. "I held unimportant jobs, I guess those other experiences, plus my illness, plus my mother's death, made me a wreck."

Roth came to San Francisco in 1957 to visit an uncle and liked what he saw. "I never went back," he smiles. "I knew that New York was not conducive to my kind of growth. I just wasn't tough enough for New York."

But he still had to work his way up in the San Francisco labor market. He clerked at I. Magnin, became a night manager at the newly opened Civic Center Garage, and serviced vending machines. He felt hampered not only by his lack of experience, but also by a stutter that had bothered him since childhood.

"To challenge myself, for about a year or two, I went out and sold Fuller brushes in Noe Valley," says Roth. "This was a tremendous challenge, to do something where people slam the door in your face. And I did very well."

In the mid-1960s Roth also became a "weekend hippy," hanging out at ex-folksinger Lou Gottlieb's group ranch in Petaluma. And he participated in the therapeutic "confrontation games" at Synanon, where he was encouraged to vent his pent-up anger and further attenuate his stutter.

With the help of a cousin, Roth landed a job as food and beverage controller at the Fairmont Hotel. It was there that he met Alice, his wife-to-be, and began thinking of making use of the skills he'd learned in his mother's kitchen.

"I always had hesitation about opening my own business," says Roth. "Then Alice got pregnant, and we got married, and all of a sudden I said, 'Gee, I've got to increase my income.'"

Alice Roth found a coffee shop in West Portal, which seemed a good place for a good restaurant. The couple opened Rive Gauche there in 1970. "For three years it was touch-and-go," says Roth. "We made a living, but we were never publicized."

Then favorable press, from the *Examiner*, *Gourmet* magazine, and elsewhere, enabled the Roths to bring in more revenue and acquire several residential properties in Noe Valley. Jack Shelton, perhaps the Bay Area's most demanding and best respected culinary critic, was effusive in the February 1975 edition of his *Private Guide to Restaurants*, praising practically everything at Rive Gauche from *crudites* to *creme caramel*. He also noted that "owner Henri Roth, clad in the apron traditional with bistro proprietors, seems everywhere at once to insure that each detail of each meal is just as it should be." (Roth now explains that he found it difficult to Francofy "Harry.")

Being everywhere at once began to take its toll on Roth. The bistro could at best accommodate a third of the 300 people clamoring to get in on weekend nights.

"I was getting very hostile, putting in lots of long hours," says Roth. "We had lots of write-ups, and I probably couldn't cope with the success. . . . Finally I had a full-blown breakdown which culminated in my trying to commit suicide."

Rive Gauche was sold in 1977. It took seven years, including hospitalization and home care, for Roth to assert his will to live and succeed. In 1984 he was approached by Dennis Ring, a young entrepreneur who had frequented Rive Gauche and wanted help in establishing his own eatery in the soon-to-be-trendy South of Market area. Roth agreed to invest money and time, and Ring's opened to rave reviews in February 1985.

As at Rive Gauche, the food at Ring's was fresh, delicious and delightfully presented, and the atmosphere was both intimate and friendly. Roth was in charge of preparing the kitchen before each day's lunch and dinner, and his touch was in clear evidence.

Two years later, Julie's Supper Club opened a few doors from Ring's on Folsom Street at Seventh. Dennis Ring and sister Julie decorated their second effort along the lines of a '60s diner, complete to the background music, and they once again involved Roth in the financing and daily operation.

Equipped with a full bar and a menu priced somewhat below its predecessor, Julie's has already become a hangout for the SOMA (South of Market) club crowd and earned an excellent review last month from the *Chronicle*.

As part-owner, Roth keeps track of Julie's "profit-and-loss," preps the kitchen, and hosts two nights a week, but he is careful not to take on more than he can handle. Since separating from Alice two years ago, he's lived at his Sanchez Street apartment building. He leaves town occasionally for a skiing trip with his son, Andrew, or an archaeological hunt through the mysteries of Central and South America. "Anything that is unsolved intrigues me," he declares.

But will anybody ever solve the mysteries underlying the tragic events that traumatized the lives of Roth and the other *St. Louis* passengers, of whom only a quarter went on to survive the war?

"All my years in Cuba, I rationalized when I saw the atrocities committed to Jews," admits Roth. "In my mind I said, 'Something is wrong with these people that they get punished so much.' I denied my Jewish background all the years in Cuba, and even after coming here."

By now, Roth is ready to deal with his denial and with the other demons that have dogged his path. "I feel stress at times," he says, "but it's nothing that I can't cope with. And that's partly because I'm not angry now." He pauses for a characteristic staccato chuckle. "If I'm angry," he adds, "I can only be angry at myself." □



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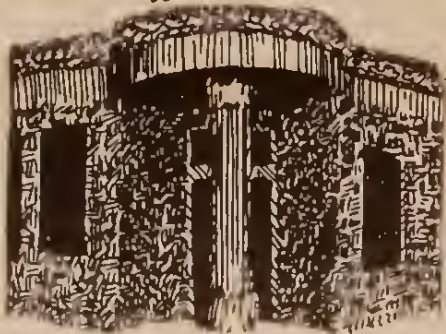
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Music Benefits Kids

The Endangered Species Affiance, a group of civic-minded Noe Valley men and women, plans to inundate neighborhood bars with music during its second annual Upper 24th Street Music Festival Saturday, Nov. 7, from 1 to 7 p.m.

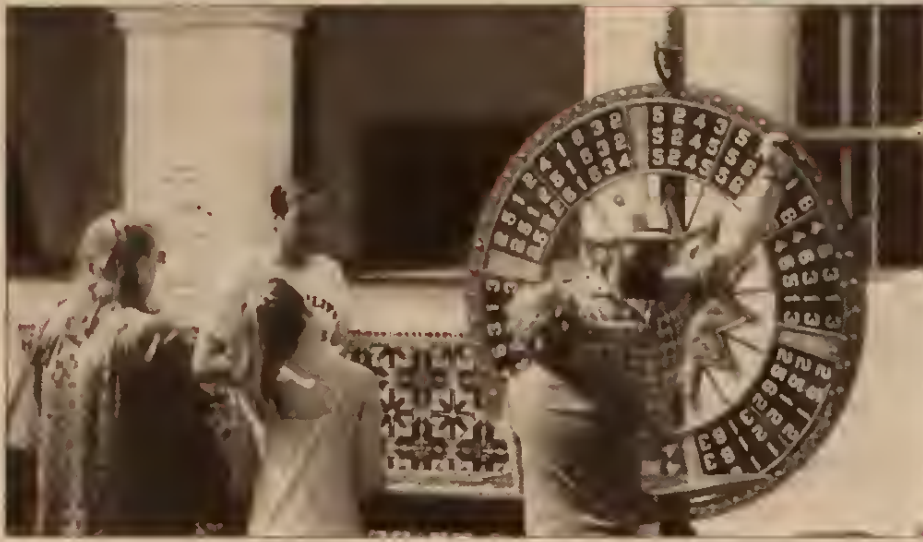
Last year hundreds of music lovers attended the affair, which will showcase 20 to 30 local rock, folk, jazz and other performing artists at six Noe Valley lounges simultaneously: Noebody's Inn, the 1st Fling, Noe's, the Cork 'n' Bottle, the Dubliner and Patch County.

Donations of \$2 for one location and \$5 for all six are suggested, and proceeds from the festivities will benefit the Jamestown Youth Center on Fair Oaks Street and the San Francisco Child Abuse Council. Questions about the festival should be directed to Roy Derrick of the Alliance, 282-4007.

Recycling at McAteer

Even though the school halls are empty because of an ongoing asbestos removal project, McAteer High at 555 Portola Drive is still running its recycling program. You can drop off glass, aluminum and newspapers in the student parking lot on O'Shaughnessy Boulevard the first Saturday of every month between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Proceeds from the recycled items go to the Close Up Club, which sends McAteer students to Washington, D.C., to meet with elected officials. For more information or to arrange door-to-door service, call club sponsor Gordon Chalmers, 846-8080.

SHORT TAKES



Noe Valleons were eager to play "Wheel of Fortune" at the St. Philip's Festival, which took place Sept. 26 and 27 on the church grounds at 725 Diamond St. Proceeds from the annual event went toward programs at St. Philip's Grammar School. Photo by Tina Wendt.

Gay Parenting Fair

Lesbian and gay parents and those considering parenthood can meet with like-minded folks at the first Lesbian and Gay Parenting Faire held Nov. 8 at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. There they'll find information booths with pregnancy and parenting services, films, workshops, food and activities for kids. Child-care is available with 48-hour notice. The fair runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 641-0220.

Eureka Sock Hop

To celebrate more than 30 years of "playground fun," the staff of the Eureka Valley Recreation Center is throwing a "Return to the Valley" spaghetti feed and sock hop Nov. 7 for everyone who has been part of the facility's programs. The dinner begins at 5 p.m. with salad, spaghetti, bread and beverages. Participants are asked to bring dessert to share. Dance to tunes from the last 30 years from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (socks or tennis

shoes only on the gym floor).

Donations will be accepted, and anyone who wants to participate in a collage for the evening should send a photo to 100 Collingwood St., San Francisco, CA 94114. For more information call 863-3531.

Senior Art Workshops

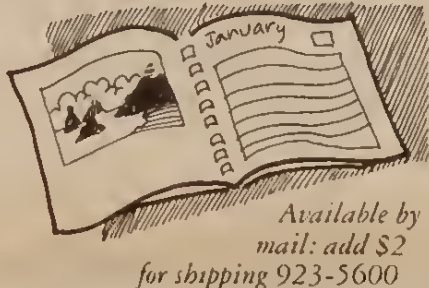
Seniors can explore their creative side during the upcoming months in a free drawing and painting workshop offered by an artist-in-residence at the Noe Valley Senior Center, 1021 Sanchez St. Artist Christine Harrison received a grant from the California Arts Council to organize the workshops and will provide her students with free materials. She welcomes both beginners and advanced artists, as well as disabled adults. For details call 621-1112.

AIDS Food Baskets

You can make a deposit to help AIDS patients this month by dropping off non-perishable food at Gibraltar Savings, 4040 24th St. The savings and loan, in conjunction with the Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice of San Francisco, is collecting food baskets Nov. 4 to 23 that will be donated to Coming Home Hospice and other AIDS programs. "And for every basket of food we collect," says Noe Valley branch manager Wesley Russell, "Gibraltar is adding a turkey." The bank is located on 24th Street between Sanchez and Noe.

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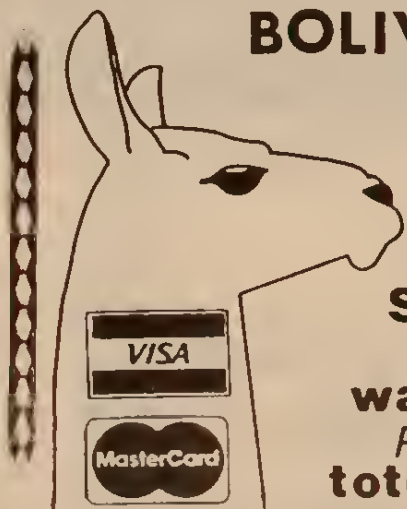
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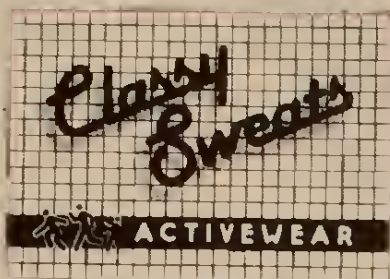
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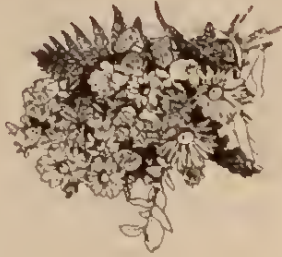
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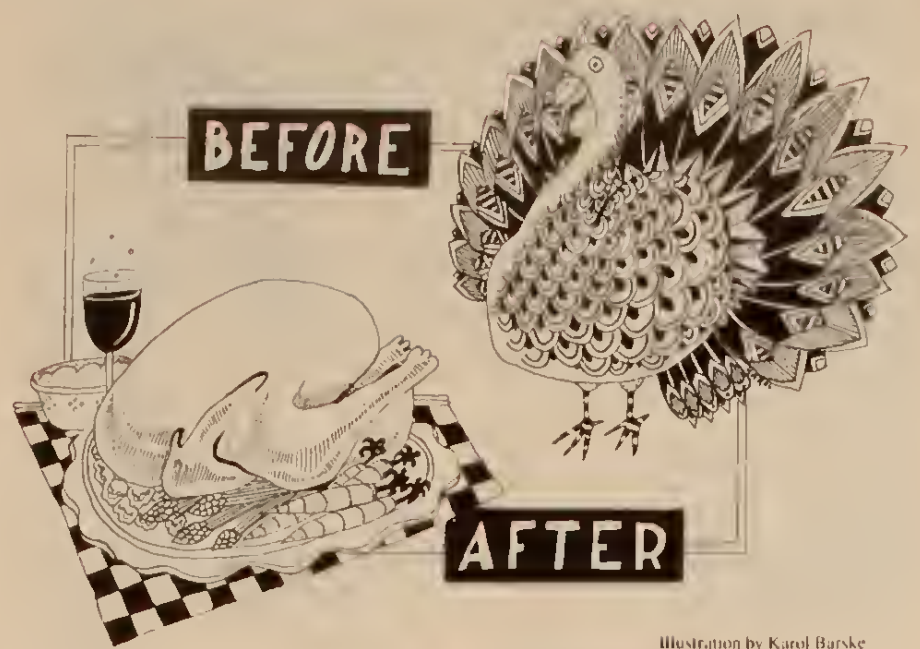


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• Notorious Mayors •

Continued from Page 1

and shot its editor, inflicting a fatal wound." The youthful Kalloch was acquitted of murder when a witness, later convicted of perjury, claimed that Charles De Young had fired first.

Meanwhile, the Board of Supervisors entered the fray by filing impeachment proceedings against Mayor Kalloch, charging that he had incited violence by the city's unemployed, filled city offices with corrupt cronies, and accepted free passes from the railroads—a serious charge at a time when the railroad barons were greatly mistrusted. However, Kalloch was found innocent on all counts.

Tampering with the Treasury

Kalloch's story, while particularly lurid, is by no means unique in city annals. Other remarkable mayors include:

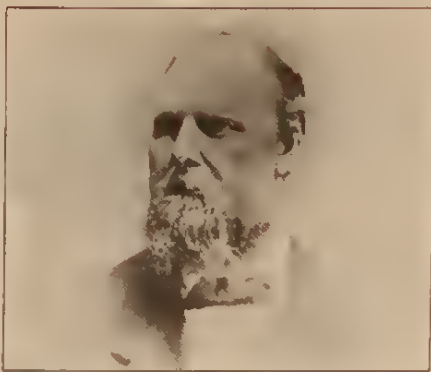
- John White Geary, the city's first mayor from 1850 to 1851, amassed a questionable \$200,000 fortune and illegally bought city lots while in office. Geary arranged the city's purchase of the brig *Euphemis*, a square-rigged, two-mast sailing ship, to serve as its first jail and thus may have made an important contribution to English slang (using "brig" to mean jail). He also pronounced the opinion while mayor that the city's favorite pastime of gambling was here to stay, because "this is the nature of man."

- Mayor Stephen Palfrey Webb (1854 to 1855) experienced the worst scandal of his political career four days after taking office when it was discovered that the city treasury had been emptied by Henry "Honest Harry" Meiggs, a prominent businessman, city official and friend to several city administrations.

Meiggs, who had pocketed city warrants in the amount of \$385,000 and forged promissory notes on two local firms for another \$233,000, departed for South America that same day in a well-larded ship with his family and loot. Webb's city treasurer was later charged by a grand jury with "malfeasance in office," although the charges didn't stick. During Webb's tenure, three aldermen were indicted on graft charges, and his administration was accused of "numerous irregularities," relates William F. Heintz in *San Francisco's Mayors: 1850-1880*.

- Two weeks after James Van Ness (1855 to 1856) took office, stories of voting irregularities in his election began circulating around the city. A mass meeting was held to explore ways of "preserving the honesty of the ballot box," and the newspapers commented that of all the charges of voter fraud, not one was officially investigated.

- Ephraim Willard Burr (1856 to 1859)



Andrew J. Bryant based his 1875 mayor campaign on eviction of the Chinese from downtown. His stance helped foment racist violence among unemployed whites. Photos courtesy of the San Francisco Archives, San Francisco Public Library.

was the first mayor to be elected without facing accusations of ballot box stuffing, but the city needed 10,000 armed men, plus a police wagon at every polling station, to keep the election pure, according to Heintz. Burr was a self-effacing man who kept a low profile as mayor, which enabled him to continue pursuing private financial interests, such as the presidency of the new Savings and Loan Society, and eventually amass a personal fortune.

- Thomas Henry Selby, an extremely successful businessman and prominent member of San Francisco society, was elected mayor in 1869. However, he first had to overcome a grave scandal caused by his wife's embarrassing public support of Dr. W. A. Scott, pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church, during the Civil War. Dr. Scott had to leave town under a cloud for preaching pro-Southern views in a strongly pro-Union city. Selby, too, found it "expedient to restore face by embarking his help-meet on the first ship to Paris; she remained there for the duration of the Civil War," Heintz reports.

Bosses, 'Paint-eaters' and Mobs

Eugene E. Schmitz, who was mayor from 1902 to 1907, deserves a chapter of his own for the widespread scandal and corruption that accompanied his administration. Schmitz had been a professional violinist and leader of the Columbia Theater Orchestra when chosen by political boss Abraham Ruef to run the Union Labor Party, which Ruef controlled.

Although Schmitz performed admirably in the days following the Great Earthquake, he was arrested for 27 counts of bribery, extortion and graft later in 1906. Ruef was indicted on similar charges. Also implicated were prominent business leaders and several members of the Board of Supervisors—dubbed the "paint-eaters" after Ruef had declared "they were so greedy that they would eat the paint off a house."

Initial convictions of both Ruef and Schmitz were overturned, and though Ruef served 4½ years at San Quentin for

a subsequent conviction, Schmitz was never retried. Proclaiming his innocence until the end, Schmitz ran unsuccessfully for mayor again in 1915 and 1919.

Perhaps the most infamous chapter in the city's political history unfolded half a century earlier, however, during the vigilante action of the 1850s and 1870s. The vigilante movements of 1851 and 1856 involved mob rule organized by prominent citizens in response to intolerable crime waves. In particular, the common practice of shooting down unarmed people in the streets rankled the leading citizens who first convened the Committee of Vigilance.

Among the civic leaders who participated were two future mayors, Henry Fredrick Teschemaker (serving from 1859 to 1863) and Selby. With each vigilante outbreak, Mayors Charles James Brenham and Van Ness attempted unsuccessfully to dissuade the mobs.

In 1851 the vigilante mob had hung a thief named Jenkins from a building in Portsmouth Plaza, and rounded up numerous other troublemakers. Then in 1856, two highly sensationalized murders again called forth a mob to take the law into its own hands. Professional gambler Charles Cora had murdered William Richardson in the street for an insult directed at Cora's mistress. Then James P. Casey shot another newspaper publisher, James King of William, for printing Casey's criminal record.

After King died a few days later, a mob appeared in front of the city jail on Broadway near Kearny, with civic leader William Coleman at its head. Mayor Van Ness appeared before the crowd to plead for the law to take its course, but he was shouted down. The sheriff was persuaded to surrender Cora and Casey, who were promptly removed to the Vigilante headquarters, Fort Gunnybags at 215 Sacramento St., tried and hung from a second-story window.

Bryant Tries to 'Evict' Chinese

Through the 1860s and 1870s a different kind of mob violence was brewing—anti-Chinese scapegoating by unemployed San Francisco laborers. The Chinese, who were said to take any job for any pay, were blamed by the mobs for California's boom-or-bust high unemployment. Street gang violence erupted first in July of 1869, and in 1872 the San Francisco Board of Supervisors began passing a series of virulently anti-Chinese ordinances, which Mayor William Alvord (1871 to 1873) vetoed.

The growing anti-Chinese sentiment led to the election in 1875 of Andrew Bryant, a notorious rahhle-rouser who "promised to solve all with a simple, home-grown recipe—to evict the Chinese from San Francisco," Heintz reports. "On the Chinese question his solu-



A former violinist, Mayor Eugene Schmitz was arrested for 27 counts of fiddling with funds in 1906. He was later acquitted.

tion was the essence of simplicity: to clear out completely the 'dens' of Chinatown and move all of the inhabitants to large sheds built on the edge of the city."

By July 1877, the city was ready to explode in anti-Chinese hysteria. Of the estimated 30,000 unemployed in San Francisco, 8,000 gathered in a sand-filled city lot, hearing exhortations to violence from Denis Kearney and other extremists.

By this point even Mayor Bryant recognized the danger and turned against the mass meetings. But he also declared the police to be inadequate to cope with the violence, and turned responsibility over to a committee of safety, organized by Coleman, the veteran of the earlier vigilante episodes. Coleman passed out pickaxe handles to his followers, and on July 27, 1877, they beat back and routed a mob that had started a fire on the waterfront, thus potentially averting the razing of both Chinatown and the city's reputation. Bryant was elected once more, but died soon thereafter, in 1882.

It would be unfair to paint all of the city's mayors with the same tar brush, or to suggest that this year's crop of contenders might in time earn the same notoriety as their predecessors. Some mayors, like "Sunny Jim" Rolph (1912-1930; see story, page 22), were loved by their city. Others have left their imprint on the city in very concrete ways. At least eight 19th-century mayors (Burr, Cornelius K. Garrison, Geary, Stephen R. Harris, McCoppin, James Otis, Selby and Van Ness) have given their names to city streets and alleys, and at least seven from this century have done the same (George Christopher, Rodger Lapham, P. H. McCarthy, Elmer Robinson, Rolph, Angelo Rossi and John F. Shelley).

The question for voters to consider this month is what legacy will be left to the landscape of the future? Agnos Alley? Boas Court? Molinari Avenue? How about Cesar Ascarrunz Plaza? □



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Milwaukee Machinist Makes Poetry for Working Folks

By Jeff Kaliss

Sue Doro, who set up office in the Noe Valley Ministry in 1986 as director of Tradeswoman Inc., will appear there in another room and another function this month. The 50-year-old former machinist will be reading selections from her *Heart, Home & Hard Hats* and other poems to inaugurate the new season of the Noe Valley Poetry Series.

As its title suggests, Doro's second book, published this year, achieves a rare alliance between blue-collar labor and verse. The poetry has been with her since she was a parochial schoolgirl in Milwaukee, Wis., writing about "God, flowers, trees, and stuff like that."

She first donned the blue collar in 1972, also in Milwaukee, after her first husband had left her and their five kids on their own. Doro got food stamps and small sums from her departed spouse, but decided it wasn't enough. While on probation for stealing a pound of hamburger, she was introduced to a Manpower Development and Training Act program.

"They wanted to put me in secretarial and I said, 'I know how to do that, what else have you got?'" recalls Doro. "I knew secretarial wasn't going to make shit. So I became the first woman in the machinists' class."

The daughter of a pro-union welder, Doro felt naturally inclined towards the blue-collar trades. "My father used to show me how to hammer and use a screwdriver, but I don't imagine he ever thought I'd use it for a job."

She wasn't surprised to find sexist skepticism in the machinists' class. "The teacher wasn't too thrilled," she says, "but the fellow workers were pretty good. They were mainly Vietnam vets who were pretty burned out, but they did know a lot about machines. I learned more from them than I did from the teacher."

Since 13 years of motherhood and housewifery had put Doro in her 30s, she was too old for the union's apprentice program, and had to take a nonunion job to raise her skills to the journeyman level. When she tried to organize a union shop, she was immediately laid off, but she managed to find a more secure position with the unionized Milwaukee Railroad.

It was with the "Milwaukee Road" that her production of poetry also increased, taking form as she worked her lathe. "When you're a machinist," Doro explains, "sometimes there will be a long cut. You could be standing there waiting for the cut for maybe five minutes. You know what you're doing, but your mind is also thinking about other things. So I used to write at that point, on the backs of order forms and production sheets so the foreman wouldn't know that I was writing writing."

Some of Doro's creations directly reflected her own experience, as in "Poet at Work," the lead piece in *Heart, Home & Hard Hats*:

the factory window
the factory
the window
the wind
trying to blow in

a poet tries to blow into your window
the poem is wind
tickling hair on the back of your neck

But she also wrote about her fellow workers—mostly men—whom she got close to in her 8½ years on the Milwaukee Road. "The older fellows had respect for what they were doing," she says, "but maybe their families didn't know what they were doing 'cause they couldn't really explain it good. So I

would write a poem about exactly what they did, like exactly how they climbed the ladder, how they got into the crane. And they would take it home, and come back to work watery-eyed." One such poem told how,

on a good day
Earl runs the lathe next to me
spins those train axles in ol' number
seven with ease
cuts coils of shiny blue metal chips
like little fat slinky spring toys
makes number seven
hummmmmmmmm with delight
when he's on a roll

"I also write about my feelings a lot," Doro points out. Her first book, *Of Birds and Factories*, was published in 1983 and contained "a lot of divorce poems." And the second book includes memories of childhood and her father, of whom she wrote, "I knew you/by the meanness/that the rich man drove you to."

There's also a series of six poems to her own children (one of whom died 10 days after birth), a couple composed for her second husband (Larry), and a particularly moving "Motherdream," in which she sees herself flying over "a dirty cold river" with "five small birds/in my pockets." The dream finds her caught in a tree above the river, and she senses her passengers:

their little eyes
like black seeds
peek out of my pockets
then their heads emerge
then one wing
then the other
like a second hatching
we see leaves through the darkness
this tree is a good tree
the birds wiggle out of my pockets
hopping out to perch on its branches
i'm crying again
and laughing
at the same time
they brush my tears with their wings
it feels good
their feathers are lying flat
calm against their hodies

Doro was deeply affected by the impact on her co-workers of the sale of the bankrupt Milwaukee Railroad in 1985. "People didn't know from one day to the next if they were going to have a job," she remembers. Several of her poems commemorate this crisis, including "Bacon Lettuce Bankruptcy," which describes,



As an ex-machinist and published poet of the proletariat, Sue Doro has overturned a lot of traditions. She now heads Tradeswomen Inc., located at the Noe Valley Ministry, and will inaugurate this season's Noe Poetry Series. Photo by Pamela Gerard

these working class giants
watching retirement dreams dissolve
like solvent eating into grease...
talking about it at every coffee
lunch or toilet break
work/layoff/bankruptcy
work/layoff/bankruptcy
like a stale sandwich from the vendor
truck
we're sick to death of it

Doro had also bemoaned the lack of female companionship in the workplace, but found it working to her advantage at this point by a strange twist of fate. She was too far down the seniority list to qualify for a severance settlement, and was unwilling to accept a transfer to the icy hinterland of Minnesota.

Then, "the union president comes to me and says, 'There's no women working in Minnesota; I bet if you tell them you're going there, they'll buy you out, because they don't want you there.'" Sure enough, within a week of her arrival on her new job, Doro was informed that she qualified for a \$13,000 lump sum severance payment.

"The kids were all grown up by that time, and my second husband and I were living together," relates Doro. "Both of us had wanted to come to the Bay Area because of the poetry and the political culture." As fellow arthritis sufferers, they were also attracted by the prospect of warmer weather.

Shortly after moving to "the cheapest apartment on Lake Merritt" in Oakland, Doro phoned the Tradeswomen office at the Noe Valley Ministry to ask for job leads. She'd become acquainted with Tradeswomen through their nationally distributed monthly magazine, aimed at blue-collar women. But she was surprised

when they told her about their need for a new director. Her office experience, by her own choice, had been limited.

"It turned out they really wanted a tradeswoman in the job," notes Doro. "Even though I didn't know A to Z in bookkeeping, I could learn that, whereas they couldn't teach a bookkeeper twelve and a half years of factory experience."

In her year and a half with Tradeswoman, Doro feels the group "has started to deal with some of its internal racism that was here for a while." They've also expanded their board of directors, attracted more funding, and issued a coloring book featuring females in nontraditional roles. (The coloring book and Doro's works are available at Modern Times and Old Wives' Tales on Valencia Street.)

But Doro has no intention of putting her poetry away with her hard hat. In fact, her Nov. 29 reading will include new poems about her adjustment to a new home and job, and a tongue-in-cheek "earthquake poem."

She'll be accompanied at that reading by Thelma King-Estrada, a Filipino activist and poet whose work deals with the conditions of Filipinos here and in their strife-torn homeland. Future Noe Valley Poetry dates will feature David Gilbert and David Highsmith (Jan. 10) and Jean Day and Lori Lubeski (Jan. 24), and monthly information is available from the Ministry at 282-2317.

For poets and audiences alike, Doro puts out a universal manifesto:

we are this poem
that cannot be taken away
that cannot
be taken
away

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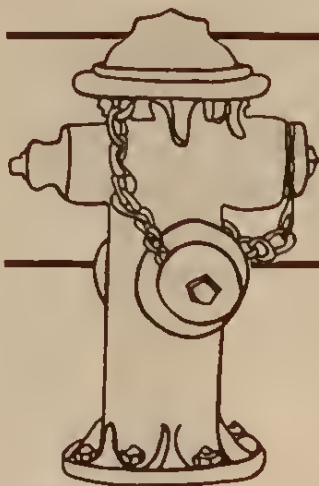
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*Edward J. Phipps, Chief of the San Francisco Fire Dept.
April 27, 1987, National Underwriters Property &
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- Requires that fire equipment and facilities BE ADEQUATELY MAINTAINED!
- NO INCREASE IN TAXES—continued expansion of the City tax base provides more than ample revenue.
- Stabilizes or prevents large increases in fire insurance rates!

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**JOHN MOLINARI
ART AGNOS**

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Cesar Ascarrunz, Willie Kennedy, Wendy Nelder, Milton Marks, Gina Moscone, Arlo Hale Smith, Joan Marie Shelley and many others including labor leaders, the SF Taxpayers' Assn., and many neighborhood and business organizations.

Over 38,000 voters signed petitions to place Prop Q on the ballot. Enthusiastic support has come from all parts of the City.

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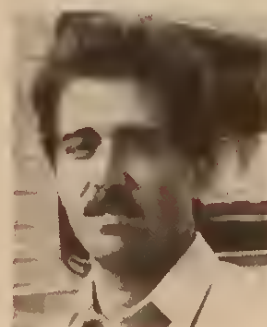
A Look at the Persons Who Would Be Mayor

Here are the answers to a survey the *Voice* conducted of the 11 candidates for mayor on this fall's election ballot. (Two office-seekers, John Molinari and Will Durst, failed to return our questionnaire and have therefore been omitted from the survey.) As you can see, the candidates run the gamut of political thought and expertise, and some may have a future as bumper-stickers writers (see question 10). Good luck in picking a winner, and don't forget to vote Nov. 3.



Art Agnos

Fulltime Legislator
Connecticut Street



Peter Anestos

Electronics Assembler
Dolores Street



1. Write a 50-word "personals" ad for the Noe Valley Voice.

Art Agnos, a candidate for mayor of San Francisco, a progressive legislator in the forefront of the struggle for human rights, protection of our neighborhoods and economic justice, seeks support of friends in maintaining our city's unique livable, human scale. Welcomes help of all ages, sexes, ethnicities, lifestyles and cultures

33-year-old factory worker and socialist. Believes working people face war, discrimination, and economic insecurity because Democratic and Republican parties represent big business. We need a labor party that would fight for a workers and farmers government, like the government in Nicaragua, that puts human needs before profits.



2. Some neighbors were upset that a Thrifty Jr. and a 7-Eleven were planning to move into adjacent storefronts on 24th Street. Do you think residents should have a say in commercial development?

As the only major candidate for mayor that supported the passage of Prop. M, the neighborhood-oriented planning initiative, I can immediately begin to implement Prop. M's planning priorities as a guide for city policy. A principle component of Prop. M is neighborhood stabilization and preservation. I will appoint planning commissioners who support the balanced economic growth policies and neighborhood preservation goals of Prop. M and who seek innovative answers to tough problems like franchise store expansion in our neighborhood shopping districts.

Yes. But this requires organization of the community. This can only be successful, like it is in Cuba or Nicaragua, if the government is on the side of the people, not on the side of profits.



3. With more cars, fewer bus stops and higher transit fares, getting around San Francisco is a challenge. How can the city improve public transportation while alleviating the parking crunch?

Enforce transit-first preferential measures, create more bus lanes to move buses faster, and time signal lights to favor buses to keep coaches on schedule. Create a single agency to deal with parking and traffic functions. (Currently, 13 agencies share responsibility.) Make Muni safer and more efficient by using smaller vehicles for less-used routes to free up buses for more heavily-used routes. Move forward with electrification of Muni because it is quieter, cleaner and more economical to run.

Every city in this country suffers from the lack of decent mass transit. Private automobiles are expensive, wasteful of natural resources, and major polluters. The money to finance mass transit should come out of the "defense"—really "war"—budget.



4. What is your stand on mandatory AIDS testing? What would be your #1 priority in the battle against the epidemic?

I support AIDS testing only if it is voluntary and/or anonymous, and always linked with appropriate counseling as provided in my bill AB 87. Reporting of names of those who are antibody positive is not warranted or beneficial and could drive away those needing medical assistance. AIDS is one of San Francisco's gravest challenges. The next mayor will need every bit of skill and experience they can muster to get the outside funding to maintain current services and make available any future treatment, vaccines, and hopefully curing medications.

Opposed. Mandatory testing would be an invasion of privacy that would target gays and poor intravenous drug users—AIDS' chief victims—while doing nothing to stop the disease. I favor a national program on AIDS with full funding for care, research and education. Take the profits out of the sale of drugs like AZT! End discrimination against gays by insurance companies!



5. If elected mayor, what would you do to fill the growing need for publicly supported childcare?

I support the long overdue establishment of a city commission on Children, Youth and Families to coordinate services in these areas. I would order an inventory of city-owned buildings that could be used for childcare and seek funding to set up these centers. I would create joint school district and Recreation and Parks Department programs to maximize after-school programs for latchkey kids. I would sponsor a campaign to encourage private employers to provide childcare for their employees.

I would make the construction of day care centers an important priority, like it is in Cuba. Fifty day care centers will be built this year in Havana alone. Our economic system forces women to take on a double burden—hold down a job and care for the household. Day care centers and other social institutions could go a long way toward relieving this burden.



6. Do you support homeporting the USS Missouri in San Francisco Bay? Or should San Francisco be declared a nuclear-free zone?

I am strongly opposed to the homeporting of the USS Missouri in San Francisco. I support San Francisco going on record against nuclear weapons and for mutual verifiable nuclear disarmament.

I oppose homeporting the Missouri. The Missouri is part of the U.S. government's war on the peoples of Central America and the Middle East. The Navy's purpose is war, not the creation of jobs. I call for creating jobs through a massive public works program that would build schools, hospitals, affordable housing, day care centers, and other much-needed facilities. I support the nuclear-free zone initiative. There is no such thing as "safe" nuclear power.



7. Rents and housing prices in Noe Valley have soared over the past decade, forcing many low- and moderate-income residents, particularly seniors and minorities, to move elsewhere. What will you do to maintain the city's ethnic and economic diversity?

According to the Bay Area Council, 60 percent of San Franciscans cannot afford the median rent of \$850 per month for a two-bedroom apartment and 80 percent cannot afford the \$175,000 price of a home. San Francisco faces the prospect of becoming the first city in America where only the wealthy can afford to live. Escalating rents are a major cause of the displacement of minorities and seniors. That is why I support fair rent controls on vacant units. As mayor, I will also push for construction of new affordable housing in vacant lots not designated for open space and on surplus city-owned properties.

Housing is a right, not a privilege or a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder. I favor serious rent control—rent should be no more than 10 percent of the head of household's income, as in Cuba. But no rent control can work without local community organizations with the power to enforce it.



8. If you had a part in the Iran/Contra drama, what role would you play?

The role that I would play in the Iran/Contra scandal is similar to that which I have frequently played as a state legislator leading an investigation as a strong chairman of a committee uncovering executive branch improprieties. In 1981 I chaired the state's hearings on how the state government handled toxic waste dump clean-ups and uncovered the failures of California's toxic waste regulatory programs. My committee's work was so highly regarded that last year the governor requested that we investigate further the failures of California's toxic waste programs.

The 19-year-old Sandinista militiaman who shot down the Hasefus plane.



9. What is Mayor Dianne Feinstein's legacy? What will be yours?

I believe that Mayor Feinstein's legacy is one of strong leadership during the tragic events of November 1978 and for downtown development. I would wish my legacy as mayor would be to have successfully brought about the changes in San Francisco that we must have to remain a livable human-scale community of wide diversity and cultural excitement with a stable healthy economy. I would like to be remembered for making all San Franciscans again feel that they have a share in making the future of our city.

Dianne Feinstein leaves a San Francisco where the wealthy have gotten wealthier but the rest of us are shakier. The number of homeless has increased, plants have shut down, rents have become impossible. I would like to see a San Francisco run by and for working people—a city for those who make it go.



10. Design bumper-stickers indicating your views on each of the following: South Africa, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

South Africa: One Person, One Vote = A Hopeful Future
El Salvador: Peace Corps Not Death Squads.
Nicaragua: Nicaragua for Nicaraguans.
Los Angeles: Not San Francisco
San Francisco: A World Model for a Human Scale City.

South Africa: Break All Ties to Apartheid/Free Nelson Mandela.
El Salvador: U.S. Out of El Salvador.
Nicaragua: No Contra Aid/Embargo South Africa, Not Nicaragua
Los Angeles: No Deportations!
San Francisco: Make San Francisco a Union Town!

MARCH OF WOULD-BE MAYORS

Same Questions,
Different Answers:
Candidate Quiz, Cont'd



Cesar Ascarrunz
Businessman
Franconia Street



Roger Boas
Former Chief
Administrative Officer
Washington Street



1. Write a 50-word "personals" ad for the *Noe Valley Voice*.

Vote for the good guy, vote for Cesar Ascarrunz. Vote in a mayor who will walk for you, not on you. Don't vote in the same old tired bunch of arrogant incompetents. Vote in a man with a real life, Cesar Ascarrunz. Cesar Ascarrunz for mayor. Become part of a team that can run this city with a light heart and clear conscience. I can bring peace and prosperity to this city like no other because I can succeed without breaking laws. Do the crooks make you sick? Vote for me.

Wanted—a mayor for San Francisco who can meet the challenges now confronting us: affordable housing, AIDS, jobs, and shelter for the homeless. Needed—someone who can get things done like building Moscone Center on budget and on time, cleaning up bay pollution for one-third the cost, who is a decorated veteran, successful businessman, and third-generation San Franciscan.



2. Some neighbors were upset that a Thrifty Jr. and a 7-Eleven were planning to move into adjacent storefronts on 24th Street. Do you think residents should have a say in commercial development?

I think every neighborhood should form a planning commission. If a new business wishes to move in or make changes, it must have the approval of the neighborhood planning commission. That is it.

Yes. I would use zoning to control the proliferation of franchises and chains. They are pushing up rents in our merchant districts and need to be stopped.



3. With more cars, fewer bus stops and higher transit fares, getting around San Francisco is a challenge. How can the city improve public transportation while alleviating the parking crunch?

We are going to do beautiful things for transportation in San Francisco. We will build garages everywhere—enough to take all the cars off the streets. We are going to build a commuter ferry and shuttle service that will make it completely unnecessary for anyone to commute to work here. Our goal is to make cars obsolete!

By having the police strictly enforce double-parking laws, getting more rail transit, building more off-street parking, and putting all traffic bureaus under one administrative umbrella.



4. What is your stand on mandatory AIDS testing? What would be your #1 priority in the battle against the epidemic?

We cannot stop AIDS by ourselves, the federal government must help us. If the health department thinks we must test for AIDS then we should not stand against them. We have to work together. We cannot set our own priorities and agenda.

I am opposed. Testing should be voluntary and confidential unless specifically requested by the health authorities. My number one priority is to lobby jointly with the mayors of New York City and Los Angeles in order to get greatly increased funding to meet the additional costs coming our way.



5. If elected mayor, what would you do to fill the growing need for publicly supported childcare?

We must have childcare for working mothers. That is it, we must. We can insist that the businesses in San Francisco either provide care or allow babies on the job. We can build centers of our own. We will do what we must do.

I would help find public facilities that can be used, I would lend my prestige in raising funds for private and not-for-profit organizations, I would work to reduce insurance costs, and I would provide oversight from a newly created Office of Children and Families.



6. Do you support homeporting the USS Missouri in San Francisco Bay? Or should San Francisco be declared a nuclear-free zone?

We cannot stand against the United States government. They will put the Missouri here and they will clean up Hunter's Point. That is good. We must stop the drugs and the crime. I was the first candidate to come out for a nuclear-free zone. Two years ago I said I was for it. If it passes in November, then I will fight to keep the Missouri out. If not, I will welcome the Missouri.

I support homeporting. I would improve the arrangement through negotiations and retain existing small business and artist studios, make sure all toxic removal costs are paid for by the federal government, and increase the revenues we are to receive.



7. Rents and housing prices in Noe Valley have soared over the past decade, forcing many low- and moderate-income residents, particularly seniors and minorities, to move elsewhere. What will you do to maintain the city's ethnic and economic diversity?

Ten years ago I was forced out of my nightclub in North Beach by a 200 percent increase in my rent. That was very painful for me. From that I understand the problems of tenants. I also own several houses, so I understand the problems of landlords. Therefore, I will be fair.

I would establish an Office of Housing to administer an affordable housing program. I would have the Board of Supervisors review the rent control ordinance annually to make sure that evictions and rent gouging are not taking place and that revenues are sufficient so that properties are maintained. I would encourage innovative financing and making better use of city land.



8. If you had a part in the Iran/Contra drama, what role would you play?

What the hell kind of question is that?

I am running for mayor—not President.



9. What is Mayor Dianne Feinstein's legacy? What will be yours?

Feinstein's legacy is a dangerously underfunded fire department, depleted cash reserves, a corrupt and arrogant city bureaucracy, massive unemployment, crumbling public buildings, and a green skyscraper. I am going to clean up the crime and corruption in the streets and government of San Francisco.

Feinstein's legacy is honesty, integrity, and hard work. My legacy would be the same, plus better environmental and budget control.



10. Design bumper-stickers indicating your views on each of the following: South Africa, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

South Africa: I Am Against Apartheid
El Salvador: We Must Stop Stealing from the People of Central America.
Nicaragua: Can We Talk?
Los Angeles: I Want my Water Back.
San Francisco: I Live in San Francisco, Etgo Cogito.

South Africa: Oppose Apartheid.
El Salvador: Help the People.
Nicaragua: (See answer to No. 8.)
Los Angeles: Let's Get Some of Our Jobs Back.
San Francisco: It's a Great City—We Need Someone Tough Enough to Keep it Great!



Melissa Ehman

Socialist Organizer
29th Street



Warren Hinckle

Journalist
Sanchez Street



Ellis Keyes

Party of Life
Broadway

I am the candidate of the left for mayor of San Francisco. My candidacy represents all those who are working for a society free of racism, sexism, exploitation and oppression: my goal is a socialist society. I'm being sponsored in this race by the Peace and Freedom Party, the International Workers Party and others on the left and in the Latino community

Bowed lady, early 50s, seeks suitable male, late 40s, to take over four-year lease on spacious quarters in City Hall. Prefers man with eye patch and basset hound with 16 years Catholic schooling

I am spiritually monotheistic, whereas I believe in only one good, our own life. Not separate but always one who says "good news." Have you heard the word? The "Party of Life" is "You are the savior of the world." I bow down to you

The residents should not only have a say in the development of the neighborhood, *they* — not Thrifty drugstores or any other corporation — should have the major decision-making power. I am for completely reordering the city, the state and the nation, so that all decisions would be made by community and workplace councils—including decisions like where to locate Thrifty drugstores.

Thrifty Drug is invading the city the way Patton crossed Europe. They have cowed the Planning Commission and pushed their way into the Haight despite the opposition of thousands of residents. They are the enemy, when the chain stores have chased out all the small neighborhood businesses, they will hold you hostage to higher prices. There should be an outright ban on future chain store expansion into neighborhoods. Ditto S&Ls

Yes, of course

We should have free, effective modern mass transit. The money is there. All we have to do is tax the big corporations effectively to get it. BART should be expanded to the Sunset and the Richmond, and an effective shuttle service for the elderly and the handicapped should be established.

The ultimate solution is to adopt the proposed New York City plan to charge a fee, say \$5, for nonresident autos entering the city. There are some constitutional problems, but New York traffic people are confident of solving them. The income would go to the Muni to subsidize fares and improve service for city residents. Meanwhile, a crackdown is needed on commuters parking their cars here and taking the Muni downtown to work. Also: diagonal parking.

More bus stops. Lower transit fares. Affordable commercial parking. Improved transportation through better self-esteem among Muni workers. Wider central freeways.

No mandatory AIDS or drug testing! Free voluntary AIDS testing, and treatment. My priority is the establishment of a free public health care system for all. Massive funding of such a system for AIDS research, treatment and education. If the money that today is wasted on Star Wars research was put into AIDS research, a cure would be found in short order.

I am absolutely opposed to mandatory AIDS testing. It is a police state solution to a medical and educational problem and will ultimately lead to a greater spread of the disease. A cottage industry will develop to beat the mandatory tests, on the logical fact that after mandatory tests comes concentration camps. My #1 priority is for a city-authorized needle exchange program, coupled with outreach work, for drug addicts, as drug users are the new wave of AIDS cases and we can do something practical to slow that wave.

Against. To come to an understanding of the cause and practice correct living, also restricting the exhibition of pornography (glorified human suffering) in our city.

I am for immediately passing a city ordinance requiring every employer in this city to provide free quality childcare for the children of all of their employees. I am for establishing a public works program that among other things would build free neighborhood childcare centers attached to every public school.

I am opposed to Art Agnos' "liberal" workfare legislation, which I consider a modern day form of slavery and union-busting that basely manipulates single parent mothers at the bottom of the economic heap. The city should coordinate its childcare services, kick the army out of the Presidio and make it into senior citizen housing and a day care/childcare center.

Can the state take better care of your children than you can? Certainly we shall find practical solutions, this deserves special consideration. Please consult me with your ideas. Thanks

The Peace and Freedom Party is one of the sponsors of the Nuclear Free Zone Initiative, Proposition U. *No homeporting of the USS Missouri in San Francisco or anywhere else.* We don't need a Chernobyl in San Francisco, and we don't need nuclear arms. I am in favor of immediately dismantling the USS Missouri and the entire nuclear arsenal.

I am not opposed to a battleship homeporting in this historic port city. I do, however, oppose the Feinstein/Molinari idea that the city should pay to bring the Missouri here; we are already paying as taxpayers and let the Navy put up the bucks if it wants its ship here. Feinstein is treating the Missouri as if it were the Democratic Convention. Existing Hunter's Point businesses must be fairly relocated and environmental concerns met.

No Mo! Yes, no nukes in Northern California. Nuclear arms are an infringement on our most basic constitutional right to life. Let us encourage a true defense through good works and service to all humankind indiscriminately.

Freeze and roll back rents to a maximum of 10 percent of family income. Freeze and roll back rents for small family-owned businesses. Multilingual and multicultural education. A city-sponsored public works program to build high-quality, low-income housing.

I support vacancy control on existing rental units, but that step alone will not solve the problem. The answer is to build more housing. The power of the city retirement fund and union pension funds must be brought into the housing market here. I would end the city policy of resisting in-law units—with tax incentives—as the cheapest and fastest way to put a large number of new affordable living units in the housing stock.

Housing is a high priority, a human right we insist upon—more community centers, soup kitchens, public services and full employment as well (swear equity urban homesteading for nonprofits).

Prosecutor of all of the criminals in the White House, the cabinet, the National Security Council and Congress. I am in favor of forcing Reagan, Bush and the cabinet to resign. I am for calling special general elections for President, Vice President and every seat in Congress now. I am for convoking a constitutional assembly to abolish the imperial presidency and the other undemocratic institutions which allowed Reagangate to occur.

The script writer.

Allah or God, not Jesus though. God is with us. If Christians and Moslems knew this true we could not fight God (all of us).

Dianne Feinstein's legacy is: The rich get richer, the poor get poorer. My legacy will be a struggle to bring down the machine of the real estate developers, of the big businesses. A legacy of struggle to end racism, sexism, union busting. A struggle that will make San Francisco a sanctuary for all immigrant workers, a union town once again, and a city that stands against nuclear weapons and U.S. intervention.

She will go down in history as the castrator mayor — she has neutered San Francisco's robust spirit with her goody two-shoes policies, almost destroyed its economic infrastructure through pell-mell construction of ill-advised highrises while chasing small businesses and middle-income families out of town and turning her head toward tourists and the yuppie-wealthy. I will restore San Francisco's manhood by returning it to the roots that gave it greatness and kicking out the politicians who preferred mediocrity.

Good and bad. / Good only.

South Africa: Victory to the Azanian Revolution! End Apartheid in the U.S. and in South Africa!
El Salvador: Victory to the Workers and Oppressed of El Salvador! U.S. Out of El Salvador!
Nicaragua: Defeat the Contras! No to the Reagan-Wright "Peace" Plan!
Los Angeles: Free the L.A. 3,000,000! No More Migra!
San Francisco: Make San Francisco a Union Town! (Again)

I sing, but I can't draw.
No, actually, I'll pass on the bumper-stickers in favor of a large poster reading, "Hinckle, ~~Not~~ Mayor at Last."

South Africa: Set Us Free From Dearth. Botha Kneels Before Mandela.
El Salvador: Freedom Fighters, Stop Fighting Against Freedom.
Nicaragua: Defend Life, Not Corruption.
Los Angeles: Have a Nice Day, O.K? I ♥ L.A.
San Francisco: Open the Doors with Keyes (Life is the Party).

So You Want to Be Mayor, Eh?

CAVALCADE OF CANDIDATES

The Last Word from End-of-the-Alphabet Office-seekers



Scott Redmond
Programs Administrator
Church and 20th streets



Joseph M. Ryan
Socialist Activist
Potrero Avenue



1. Write a 50-word "personals" ad for the Noe Valley Voice.

Candidate for mayor of San Francisco seeks voters who care about accountability in government, basic ethics, and a City Hall that doesn't use the people but, rather, is *used by* the people to improve the quality of life in our town. Let's get together, vote: Scott Redmond for Mayor!

Want to join an organization which is dedicated to fighting against war, unemployment, racism, and sexism? Get together with like-minded people who believe socialist solutions and a politically organized working class are the most effective means to fight for peace and social justice. Call or write to: Socialist Action, 3435 Army St., Suite 308, SF 94110. (415) 821-0458.



2. Some neighbors were upset that a Thrifty Jr. and a 7-Eleven were planning to move into adjacent storefronts on 24th Street. Do you think residents should have a say in commercial development?

A neighborhood does not exist unless everyone that lives there is acknowledged as an integral component of that micro-city. Every person has a right to participate in decisions that will affect the way they live and the environment they live in.

Residents should have the right to determine commercial development of their neighborhoods. The best way to ensure this is to form neighborhood committees of representatives from unions, minorities, etc.



3. With more cars, fewer bus stops and higher transit fares, getting around San Francisco is a challenge. How can the city improve public transportation while alleviating the parking crunch?

The Redmond for Mayor Campaign has proposed an underground parking facility in the South of Market, Mission Bay area. This structure would be covered by an urban park. This program would provide over 100 local jobs. This would help with the downtown traffic problem. Muni needs more funds and tighter administrative control. We would secure additional monies by maximizing the city's investments and cracking down hard on civic corruption.

What's needed is a crash program for improving public transportation. Muni should be free. The taxes of working people have paid for public transportation many times over. They shouldn't have to pay again. Tax the corporations, banks, and land developers to pay for city services.



4. What is your stand on mandatory AIDS testing? What would be your #1 priority in the battle against the epidemic?

I would personally oppose most programs that infringe on an individual's freedom. Persons that have AIDS need to be offered a chance not a sentence. My number one priority in the AIDS counterattack would be easier access to testing, faster testing turnaround, all-demographic-coverage education programs that get the facts to our citizens and shut down the rumors.

No mandatory testing! This scapegoat proposal plays no role in finding a cure and will drive AIDS victims into hiding. What's needed is a massive "Manhattan Project" program run by the government to spend all the money necessary and bring the best scientific minds together to find a cure. Fund AIDS research, not the Contras. Locally, money should be allocated to provide the best medical care and comfort possible for AIDS victims.



5. If elected mayor, what would you do to fill the growing need for publicly supported childcare?

Secure funds from the new resources our campaign has found and create networks for childcare neighborhood centers, abuse investigation, and a new senior citizen employment program for support services as childcare aids.

I support free, publicly-run childcare facilities for all who need it. In addition, all elementary schools should have after-school childcare programs to serve the needs of single-parent households. Childcare and education are rights—not privileges. The corporations and banks should be forced to pay for what the children of working people need.



6. Do you support homeporting the USS Missouri in San Francisco Bay? Or should San Francisco be declared a nuclear-free zone?

I support what the symbology of a nuclear-free zone designates. I oppose war and conflict in all its modes. The Missouri issue has been clouded by lies and misinformation as many different groups try to secure financial gain from the federal coffers. The Redmond for Mayor campaign will publish open reports on all sides of the issue and provide an in-office system for every resident to vote on the specifics of the issue. The real story and the real pros and cons have not been allowed out on this issue yet.

I am against homeporting of the USS Missouri, which is no more than a floating gun platform designed to terrorize workers and peasants around the world. In addition to further militarization of the bay, the homeporting would be a blow against the majority anti-war sentiment of San Franciscans. Money should be spent to provide jobs for construction in Hunter's Point instead of jobs for destruction. The Board of Supervisors' approval of the homeporting shows their priorities don't lie with the need for jobs and housing.



7. Rents and housing prices in Noe Valley have soared over the past decade, forcing many low- and moderate-income residents, particularly seniors and minorities, to move elsewhere. What will you do to maintain the city's ethnic and economic diversity?

In the Redmond for Mayor written, signed guarantee of campaign tasks (against which we will escrow part of the mayoral salary, if we do not meet our guaranteed tasks the escrowed money will be given to an AIDS outpatient center and a shelter for the temporarily homeless), we deal with some of our plans to deal with this concern. This includes an action team to seek out and assist seniors with information and access to all city support services, to make the Planning Commission more accessible to the public, to create cultural mini-centers, to enact a family-Victorian renovation program, and more.

I support a crash program for building affordable housing. Rents should be no higher than 10 percent of a renter's income. First priority should go to the black and Latino communities, who are being driven from their neighborhoods by real estate speculators.



8. If you had a part in the Iran/Contra drama, what role would you play?

I would choose the role of head of the CBS television network. I would order the entire news department to provide clear, factual reports on the activities and complete background information that any member of the public could understand. I would policy the news department to make sure that every viewer had the ability to get all the information on the situation if they chose to.

As chief prosecutor, who, as a socialist, would expose the complicity of both the White House and the Senate (both the Democrats and Republicans) in illegal acts designed to deceive the American people and continue an undeclared war against the people of Nicaragua. The opposite of this, that is, a cover-up, is what the Iran/Contra hearings have really been about.



9. What is Mayor Dianne Feinstein's legacy? What will be yours?

No comment on the first part, please. My legacy as mayor would be a memory of a mayor that worked with the people of San Francisco to take our city into the future by getting back to the basics... basic ethics, basic accountability, basic good-sense civic budgets and basic humanitarianism.

She played her role well to insure that the corporations, banks, and the rich in general would get their fantastic profits at the expense of working people. The unions are weaker, the oppressed minorities are under attack, and the rights of women are being challenged. Yes, she did her work well, indeed. My legacy? Played a role in mobilizing working people and their allies to fight for their interests independent of the Democratic and Republican parties. That's why I'm running for mayor.



10. Design bumper-stickers indicating your views on each of the following: South Africa, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

South Africa: The Difference Between the Possible and the Impossible is the Measure of Will.

El Salvador: Tears of Steel.

Nicaragua: Nobody Ever Wins, One Side Just Loses Slower Than Another!

Los Angeles: W. H. Y. L. A.

San Francisco: Where America IS!

South Africa: Stop U.S. Support for South African Apartheid.

El Salvador: No U.S. Arms to El Salvador.

Nicaragua: Hands off Nicaragua—No Aid for the Contras.

Los Angeles: Full Rights for Undocumented Workers—Stop the Deportations!

San Francisco: Working People Make the City Run, Working People Should Run the City!

Noe Valley Cannot Afford Proposition T

Proposition T is one of the most misleading ballot initiatives ever presented in San Francisco. The authors of Proposition T would like you to believe that this measure is nothing more than an effort to rescind "a street giveaway to the Rockefellers." However, Proposition T has nothing to do with "street giveaways" or the Rockefellers. It has everything to do with whether middle and low-income San Franciscans can afford to live in this city.

Proposition T will lead to higher housing costs in San Francisco.

We cannot afford to be misled. **We must vote No on Proposition T.**

"Proposition T is just another effort by those who want to see San Francisco become a preserve of the wealthy. Please vote against Proposition T."



— Supervisor Harry Britt



— Nancy Walker, President,
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

"Proposition T will hurt San Francisco's neighborhoods by contributing to the escalating costs of housing. I strongly urge you to vote No on Proposition T."

"Proposition T would hinder San Francisco's ability to improve the quality of life in our unique neighborhoods."



— Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi



— Miriam Blaustein, Friends of Noe Valley

"Proposition T could prevent the creation of affordable housing and open space in our neighborhood. Noe Valley must vote No on T."

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION T

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Young Republicans of San Francisco
Affordable Housing Alliance
National Women's Political Caucus
Coalition for Better Housing
Did St. Mary's Housing Committee
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian
Gay Memorial Democratic Club
Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club
San Francisco Taxpayers Association
City Democratic Club
Frederick Douglass Symposium
Latino Democratic Club
District B Democratic Club
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club
Downtown Association of San Francisco

SPUR
Chinese American Democratic Club
Service Employees International Union Local 790
Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights
North Mission Association
North of Market Voters Club
Mayor Dianne Feinstein
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Assemblyman Art Agnos
City Attorney Louise Renne
Supervisor Harry Britt
Supervisor Jim Gonzalez
Supervisor Tom Ito
Supervisor Willie Kennedy
Supervisor Bill Maher
Supervisor John L. Molinari
Supervisor Wendy Nelder
Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver

Supervisor Nancy Walker
Supervisor Doris Ward
Sheriff Michael Hennessey
Planning Commissioner Richard B. Allen
Planning Commissioner Sue Bierman
Planning Commissioner Bernice Hemphill
Planning Commissioner Yoshio Nakashima
Planning Commissioner Toby Rosenblatt
Planning Commissioner Douglas G. Wright
John L. Burlon
Former Member of Congress

Sue Heslor
San Franciscans for Reasonable Growth
Calvin Welch
Citizens for Representative Government
John H. Jacobs
Executive Director
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Walter Johnson
Secretary/Treasurer
San Francisco Central Labor Council
Stan Smith
Secretary/Treasurer
San Francisco Building Trades Council
Geraldine Johnson
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
Dale Carlson
Dick Faltich
Jim Rinaldo

Connie O'Connor
Ricardo Hernandez
Alfredo Rodriguez
Sal Roselli
Steven Taber
Tony Kilroy
Kelly Cullen
Randy Shaw
Lillian Crosthwaite
Peggy Franz
Polly Marshall
Silvia Sum
Ed Emerson
Heldi Swartz
J.B. Saunders
H. Marcia Smolens
Adam Kravitz
Marcelo Rodriguez

(A Partial List)

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COMMENTS

"In S.F., alas, couscous was long an expensive repast, available in only a few fancy dinner houses. But now comes Cafe Gitane, with authentic Tunisian chicken couscous to fit the authentic down-and-out-in-Paris budget."

—S.F. Focus, April '87

"A place to taste an unusual cuisine, especially the couscous, at very reasonable prices. Great spicy Tunisian sausages."

Eating Out, SF Chronicle
June 21, 1985

"Mergues, a spicy Tunisian lamb sausage one of my best meals ever!"

Serena Jukovitz, SF Restaurants

"For a budget dinner, an inexpensive establishment that serves a generous savory feast, the masterpiece is couscous, with great mergues and breek."

California Living
SF Sunday Examiner, June 9, 1985

"Cafe Gitane serves up freshly prepared, modest-priced African dishes for expatriates as well as new devotees of this addictive cuisine."

S.F. Bay Guardian, Sept. 17-24, 1986

Selected one of the best restaurants in San Francisco!

S.F. Focus, Aug. '87

**Before your next haircut in '87...
...ask yourself these questions:**



**Come in for
a free Image
Analysis.**

- 1 Is the haircut I have now practical for me?
- 2 Does it take a lot of time to "do" my hair?
- 3 Does my hair always look flat?
- 4 Do I have to set it every day?
- 5 Does it fall limp as it touches my shoulders?
- 6 Can I see my face or is my hair always falling in my eyes?
- 7 Do I swim a lot or participate in sports where my hair gets in my way?
- 8 After sports can I look presentable or glamorous in the evening?
- 9 If I'm on vacation, will I want to spend a lot of time "doing" my hair in the style that it is now or would I rather be out enjoying myself?
- 10 Have I been coloring and perming so much that in order to get my hair in shape I need a shorter haircut?

Isa's

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Sunday: 12-5 / Never on Monday

Back to the Picture!
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Back to the Picture!

Long-Awaited Success for A Spinner of Strange Tales

By Jane Underwood

You know the type. One of those cafe writers. He can be seen alternately scribbling, gazing into space, and drinking coffee for hours on end at the Meat Market, La Boheme and Cafe Commons. Enveloped in cigarette smoke and oblivious to his surroundings, he sits alone, the determined, struggling artist.

Richard Muir, a 38-year-old artist-turned-novelist who moved to Noe Valley six years ago, really fits this bill—except for one thing. After seven years of knocking on publishers' doors, he recently opened an envelope that contained a book contract instead of a rejection slip. And he plans to celebrate with a book-signing party for his novel, *The Miniature Man*, at Cover to Cover bookstore on Nov. 22.

The novel, Muir's second (although he has five others waiting in the wings), is about a chess game played between Julian Papp, an albino chess whiz, and Sister Zoe, a psychoanalyst Franciscan nun.

The setting is a sanitarium run by a convent, where Julian finds himself after suffering an epileptic seizure, losing his chess-playing acumen, and attempting suicide. While in the sanitarium he meets Marcy, a 15-year-old girl who provokes

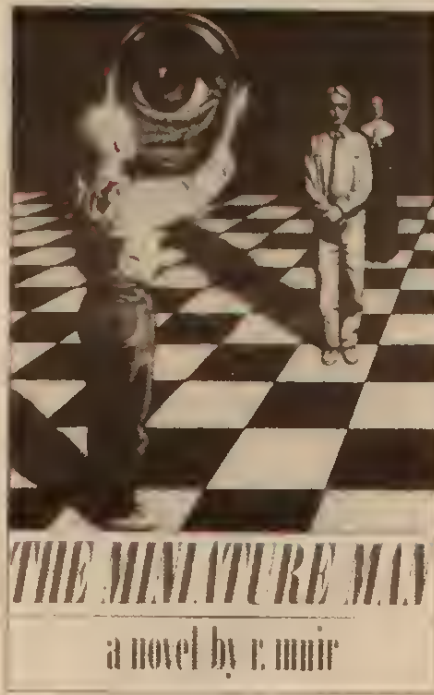
him to play the most important game of his life.

Muir says half-jokingly, "The book's a good gift to give to a chess player." But anyone, he continues, will enjoy it. "It's the most accessible of everything I've written. And if you play chess, it's like having an inside track. You can actually set up the board and play the moves as you read the book." He insists that his work doesn't fit into any one genre, but does admit that a good friend has deemed it "a psychological thriller."

Muir, who works as a recruiter at a market research firm, made a shift in media while living in Arizona eight years ago. He was "doing Escher-like pencil drawings" and sculpting wood figures out of mesquite and pecan when he "got bored" with carrying around heavy art supplies and decided to switch to the written word.

He tried his hand at writing children's books while teaching creative drama and art, and then "I met a group of actors and ran away to Hollywood. I'd never felt comfortable with my peers at school, but through these actors I found an artistic community, and I thought, Oh, this feels like home. It's better than PTA meetings!"

After short stints in Monterey, New



Richard Muir's novel is a psychological thriller based around an apocalyptic chess game. Illustration by Gary Aagaard.

York and Europe, Muir made his way back to Arizona, wrote *The Miniature Man*, and then moved to Noe Valley, where he finished two other novels, *Refugees from a Merry-Go-Round* and *Jewel*.

Three years later, he moved over the hill to the Castro and went to work on the novels *Q* and *Duet for Solo Voice*. Though yet to be published, *Q* was recently nomi-

nated by Scribner's for the Editor's Book Award (a division of the Pushcart Prize, which publishes a winning novel of literary merit each year). *Q* is a story about an internationally famous musician who gets involved in covert U.S. military operations, becomes a deserter, changes his identity, and rises to fame again as the leader of an expatriate band.

Muir's circuitous route to publication began when he made friends with a singer at the Metropole cafe on Church Street (now Rami's Caffe). His buddy moved to New York, took a temporary job at St. Martin's Press, and passed on the name of an editor to Muir. Muir "made some phone calls" and ultimately got the editor to look at his work.

"You get to know people after several years of rejections," he explains cavalierly. "So although I was agentless at the time, I had people agreeing to see my stuff."

The editor at St. Martin's started the ball rolling. "When he said, 'Yes, I love *The Miniature Man*, we'll lead off with it,' well, that was music to my ears," says Muir.

The wine and cheese book party will be held at Cover to Cover Booksellers, 3910 24th St., on Nov. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. □



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LANDMARKS of Noe Valley

Sunny Jim's Retreat on Sanchez Street

By Larry Beresford

James Rolph Jr. (1869–1934) was one of the most beloved mayors in San Francisco history. Unlike some of his notorious fellow mayors (see story on page 1), Rolph served for 19 distinguished years, only stepping down in 1930 to become governor of California.

Nicknamed "Sunny Jim" and "Plain Jim Rolph of the Mission," Rolph was known for his charm, congeniality, graceful speech, flamboyantly formal dress and Western-style high-heeled boots. David Wooster Taylor (in *The Life of James Rolph Jr.*) praises Rolph's common touch: "Horses, dogs, rodeos,

fairs—how he loved them all. And yet what sartorial splendor he could bring to a formal feast, or a grand hall."

Rolph took office in the midst of the worst corruption case in the city's history—the graft trials of former Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz and political boss Abraham Ruef. In contrast, Rolph's tenure was marked by political tranquillity, and by the city's rebuilding and growth after the Great Earthquake. He presided over the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915, which announced to the world that San Francisco had indeed recovered from its great disaster.

While serving as mayor, Rolph lived with his family in a since-demolished



Whatever its past use, Rolph's "tree-embowered Stockbroker Tudor house" at the corner of Sanchez and 21st now forms the residence of Frankie Salomon and still affords a commanding view of the city. Illustration by Florence Holub



Former mayor James Rolph, also known as "Sunny Jim" and "Plain Jim," demonstrated a love for rodeos and Western-style boots, as well as horses and dogs. Photo courtesy of the San Francisco Archives, San Francisco Public Library

mansion on San Jose Avenue near 25th, but city archives and neighborhood legend also link him to Noe Valley, specifically to the charming English cottage nestled in the pines at the corner of Sanchez and 21st streets.

The house at 3690 21st St., perched atop the Sanchez Street hill highlighted in last month's *Landmarks* column, offers a spectacular view of City Hall and the rebuilt city Rolph helped to shape. *Hills of San Francisco*, a book published in 1959 by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, states that the cottage was "set up as an entertainment hideout by the gregarious Rolph." But it's unclear what kind of entertaining Rolph did there.

According to records in the City Assessor's Office, James Rolph purchased the property north of 21st Street and east of Sanchez in 1927, three years before he

was elected governor. The next entry for this property shows the mayor's son James Rolph III selling it a year later to a firm called Burlingame Corporation, which then passed it on to several other companies.

However, the mayor's son listed 3690 21st St. as his residential address in the 1931 and 1932 telephone directories. City Water Department records give the building's water hook-up date as Jan. 24, 1931, suggesting that the house was completed in 1930.

It seems clear that Mayor Rolph bought the land and that his son lived in the house while Rolph was governor. But was it more than a real estate investment?

Linna Kaye, who has lived across the street from the Rolph House for 32 years,

Continued on Page 23



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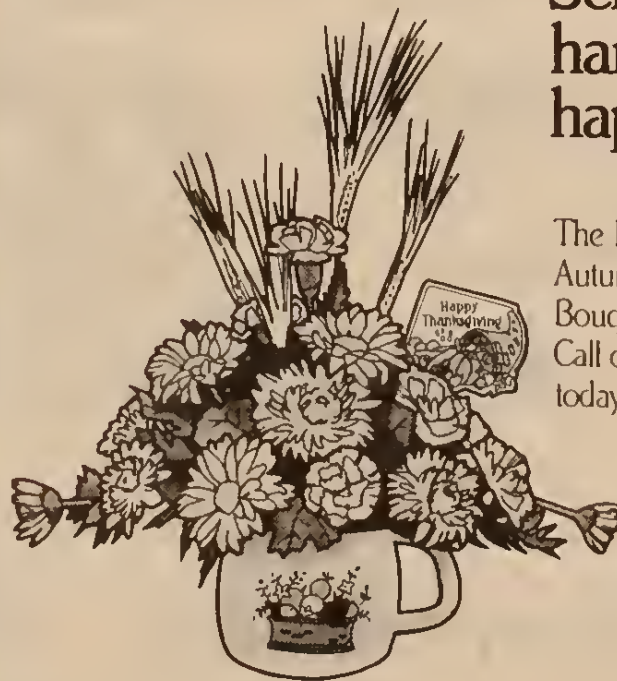
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• Mayor's Controversial Cottage •

Continued from Page 22

says, "It was on account of the mayor that they cut Sanchez Street through here," over the top of the rocky hill, in the late 1920s.

"Mayor Rolph had a charming family. We went out socially with them. But I heard the gossip. It was common knowledge that this house [at 21st and Sanchez] was his love nest," Kaye says.

A more intriguing hint comes from the 1966 autobiography of Sally Stanford, *The Lady of the House*. Stanford, the infamous San Francisco madam and later mayor of Sausalito, describes at some length both Rolph's personal appeal and the gossip about his reputation as a womanizer. She also recalls in her book a visit to Rolph's "pleasure palace" while he was still mayor, when she brought along three of her "able-bodied young ladies... for the comfort and delectation of a covey of politicians arriving from Los Angeles."

Curiously, Stanford places this meeting "at 699 Sanchez in the Mission District." That specific address does not exist, but if it did, it would be on the corner of 20th Street, two short blocks down the hill from the house Rolph built on 21st Street.

However, Rolph's daughter Georgina Rolph Curtis, when contacted by the

Voice laughed and said, "I think Dad entertained at home," meaning the mansion on San Jose. Curtis, who now lives in the East Bay, says she only remembers visiting the 21st Street cottage once, when her late brother Jim lived there.

Randolph Delehanty (in *Walks and Tours in the Golden Gate City*) describes the structure as a "tree embowered Stockbroker Tudor house." In addition to its view of downtown—reputed to be the best in the city—the beige stucco and brick cottage has a formal garden with a bronze fountain brought over from Italy in the 1930s. The pine trees surrounding the cottage are said to be planted under the direction of Parks Superintendent John McLaren from saplings taken from Golden Gate Park.

The Rolph cottage is now owned by Frankie Salomon, widow of Joseph Salomon, who was president of a local tanning firm. In the guidebooks it is called "Casa Cielo," or heaven house, but the origin of the name—like the exact nature of activities hosted by "Sunny Jim"—remains a mystery.

Editor's Note: This column is the second in a series on Noe Valley's historical and architectural landscape. Your comments and suggestions for future columns are welcomed and should be sent to writer Larry Beresford, c/o the Voice. □

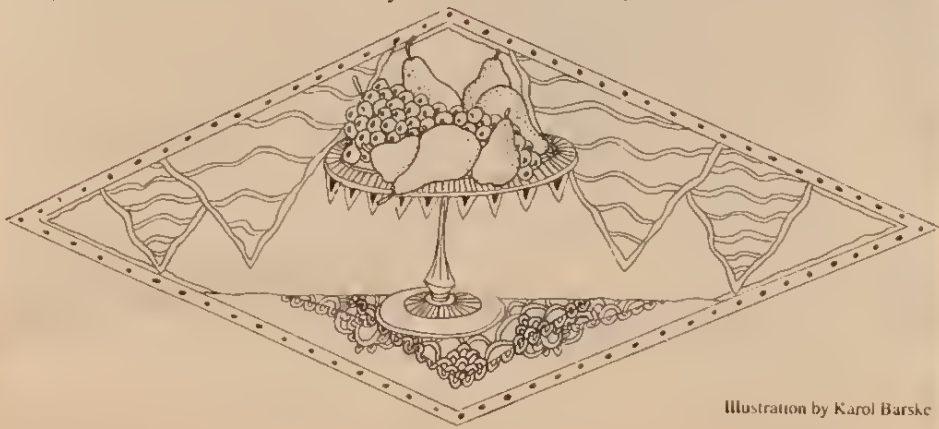


Illustration by Karol Barske

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GRIPES OF WRATH:

1. Don't you hate being inundated by junk mail from S.F. realty companies telling you that if you want to sell out or get a free "market analysis" on your property, you should just give their "Noe Valley Area Specialist" a call?

2. And how 'bout the Car Wars on 24th Street? Have you had the misfortune of finding a legal parking space on a Saturday morning, only to be preempted by a '73 orange Toyota making a U-turn from the other side of the street right into *your* spot? And then the police honk at you for double-parking. Geez!

3. What about all those guldern jet planes jolting the air space above Noe Valley on their way outta here? This despite rumors earlier this year that as of April 1, 1987, the FAA was rerouting the pattern of take-offs from S.F. International Airport. April Fool's!

4. The Pepto-Bismol pink and mouth-watering magenta paint job in the remodeled/reopened Meat Market Coffeehouse somehow rubs me the wrong way. Co-owners Barbara Martin and Curtiss Chan are happy with "a great response to the

and now for the RUMORS behind the news

decor," however. What makes *me* happy is the great cappuccino.

5. I can't stand having to pay 25 cents for the *San Francisco Progress* in the mechanical stand outside Bell Market when I forgot to pick up a free one inside just moments before. Oh, and while we're on the subject of Bell Market, those new ENVIPCO can and bottle return (for a penny) machines are already out of order. And, what about Bell's "Limit 2 Students" signs on both entrances and the Bellmen stationed there to enforce them? What next—are the kids gonna have to start wearing badges?

6. Noebody likes those litterati who walk down 24th Street and post bills on any and every power pole. To keep their ads out of reach of the local vigilantes who tear them down, the post-sters are now carrying stepladders, upping the ante, so to speak.

7. Speaking of upping, why are all the second-story flats on 24th Street the

target of neon nail salons?

8. Why did we Noe Valleons have to trek all the way over to Franklin Hospital (Duhoce and Castro) on Oct. 12 to witness a debate among the major mayoral candidates? It's strange to go over to Eureka Valley to ask, "If you are elected, what are you going to do for Noe Valley?" And Molinari didn't even show.

9. Aren't you bothered by the fact that our government is regularly exploding very powerful nuclear devices 2,000 feet below Yucca Flats, Nev., less than 500 miles from Noe Valley? A recent blast (Aug. 14) reached a magnitude of 5.7 on the Richter Scale, a rather brutal tampering with mother nature. Unbothered, the U.S. Department of Energy called it "a textbook success" and bragged that "no radiation escaped into the atmosphere." We need some dogs to watch the watchdogs.

10. Speaking of dogs, my perennial pet peeve: all those dog owners who

allow their best friends to crap all over our sidewalks. Yeah, and what about all those car owners who park in the driveway, blocking passage on the sidewalks? Yeah, and what about all those abandoned cars sitting *next* to the sidewalks. Okay, enough is enough.

☎ ☎ ☎

I AM THRILLED with the winning entry in the Drewes Meat Market's Name Our Clay Lamb Contest: Ewey Lewis. It was submitted by 29th Streeter Joe Keane. I also liked runner-up Ollie Baabaa. Maybe vegetarians would have preferred Wool Rogers. Honorable mentions went to Rackerfeller, E. F. Mutton, Quentin Chop and John Muttonari.

According to Drewes marketeer Dave Carroll, there were 347 entries, "including a block of 42 names written by Patch County patrons (mostly on bar napkins), some of which are not printable but very funny." Dave says many people want to know when the next contest starts, and which of your favorite barnyard friends is the next subject.

On the food front, Wayne Basso is expanding Noe's Bar (at Church and 24th)

Continued on Page 25

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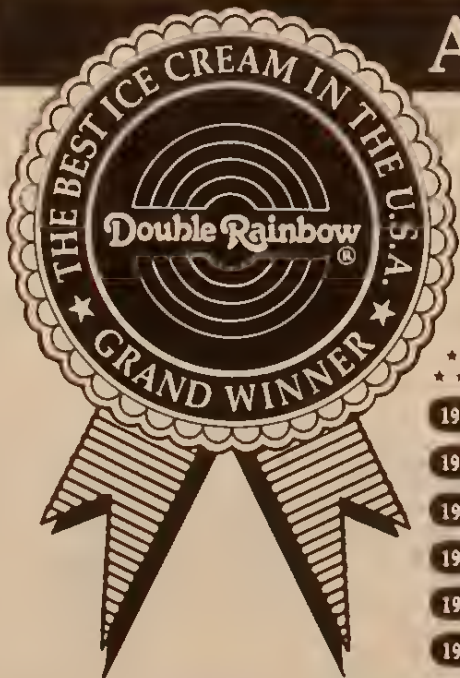
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RUMORS

Continued from Page 24

into a Bar and Grill. The east wall of Noe's will fall to join a "Joe's-style" restaurant in the old New Hunan space. According to restaurateur John LaRosa, who'll run the grill, "We will have your basic seven items (lamb and pork chops, steak, pasta, chicken, fish, Joe's-style burgers, and a daily special." The eatery will probably open before the end of the year.

Expanding also is Panos' restaurant at the corner of 24th and Noe. The whole first floor of the building housing Panos will be gutted for remodeling, closing the restaurant for about a month.

Two other big thinkers are Rory's Ice Cream at 24th and Castro, which will expand to allow seating on the premises, and Bakers of Paris, which plans to ask for a permit to sell sandwiches.

There was plenty of Irish sausage, chicken and ribs at The Dubliner's celebration of St. Brendan's Day Oct. 11. The 24th Street pub offered the party as sort of a counter-Columbus Day event. "It was St. Brendan who discovered America, you know," declared Dublin-born bar owners Pat Dent and Vincent Hogan. And there's some truth to this rumor. Irish folklore tells of seafaring monks making Medieval trans-Atlantic voyages around 600 A.D. St. Brendan's tales are the most famous and the subject of a best seller of the 1400s, *Navigatio Sancti Brendani Abbatis*, reportedly read by Columbus.

Anyway, the whole theory becomes more plausible after two or three Hot Irish Monks, a Dubliner specialty.

☎ ☎ ☎

CROTCH CONNECTION: Business is booming at Chi Pants on the corner of 24th and Sanchez. Chi is the Chinese word for energy (actually translated as "rice"), which is what you get when you wear pants without that tightly-fastened cross seam at the crotch. The Chi pant has replaced the four-seamed cross with a diamond-shaped piece called a gusset. Most trousers had a gusset until a century ago, when mechanical manufacturing dispensed with the gusset as uneconomical.

The Chi Pants line was created by Laurence Ostro in Santa Cruz about three

years ago. It was originally a small mail-order business with a retail shop near the beach. "We opened up our second retail store in Noe Valley this spring," says retail coordinator Mel Bornstein. "And we've been overwhelmed with the response in the neighborhood. We're now selling almost 2,000 pairs of pants a month to men, women and toddlers."

Bornstein, who is also a chiropractor, says Chi is opening a third store in Berkeley (of course) and soon will be marching on to Palo Alto and San Rafael.

If you're into computer connections, then you already know that Noe Valley's first computer store has opened on Sanchez behind St. Clair's Liquors. "There are a lot of computer users in this neighborhood," claims co-founder Howard Patrick. Howard and Steve Rode do installations and consulting, and carry software (including Word Perfect for 250 bucks), supplies (ribbons, disks, paper, cables) and hardware for all your New Age needs.

Says Howard: "We've got a great XT clone with a 640K memory for \$995, a good price. When we started here a couple of months ago, we expected to sell three or four a month, and now we're

selling more than 15 a month." For another two grand you can get a laser printer, and desk-top yourself to kingdom come. I like my present word processor: the Ticonderoga 1388 #1 extra-soft pencil outputting on a Marathon legal tablet.

☎ ☎ ☎

COUCH POTATO UPDATE: Local video stores report that your current favorites are *Star Trek IV* and Walt Disney's animated *The Lady and the Tramp*. But the real video news is the monster lawsuit between Vestron and HBO Video over the rights to the not-yet-released-on-video blockbuster *Platoon* and the recently released *Hoosiers*.

"We got word from headquarters," says Tony D'Alessandro, who owns the National Video branch at 24th and Church, "to pull *Hoosiers* off the shelf, and that there was an injunction against delivery of *Platoon* for sale or rent." Tony cringes. "We had to refund deposits to the scores of people who had ordered the movie."

Top of the pops at Streetlight Records is Bruce Springsteen's *Tunnel of Love* album. Top CD is Wynton Marsalis' collection of jazz standards. Over at Aquarius, the best-selling record is

American Music Club's *Engine*.

At the top of the New Age music charts down the street at Star Magic is *Fairy Rings* by Mike Rowland. "It's been out-selling everything else by at least four to one," says store manager Julie Ready. But the up-and-comer, she says, is the modern African dance music of Ka Jakee Tri Atma.

Top of my New Age pops is still *Deep Breakfast* by Ray Lynch, featuring such tracks as "Celestial Soda Pop" and "Rhythm in the Pews."

Over at Cover to Cover, hookworms are flocking to Louise Erdrich's novel *Beet Queen*, about life in Argus, North Dakota, circa 1938. I suggest you ask for *Cracking Jokes: Studies of Sick Humor Cycles and Stereotypes*, a book on foreign humor by U.C. Berkeley anthro prof Alan Dundes (1987, Ten Speed Press).

I'll leave you with an excerpt from Dundes' book, appropriate to tomorrow's world news: "In England everything is permitted that's not forbidden. In Germany everything is forbidden that's not permitted. In France everything is permitted, even if it's forbidden. In Russia everything is forbidden, even if it's permitted."

Ciao for now. □

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MORE MOUTHS to feed

By Jane Underwood

Although Chris and John Anastos appear to be perfectly down-to-earth people—Chris, 34, works as a gardener in Golden Gate Park, and John, 39, manages real estate—they took the metaphysical approach with their first baby. "We planned for him to be an Aquarius horn in the age of Aquarius," says John of his son, **Ross Montgomery Anastos**. "And he's a star!"

Ross, born at 1:24 a.m. on Jan. 20 (just an hour into his sign), weighed seven pounds, two ounces. "He's gentle, outgoing, active, happy and delightful," enthused Mom eight months later, "and so much fun we haven't watched TV in months."

Dad, who took on the role of house-husband when Chris went back to her job last September, adds, "Other men don't know what they're missing: seeing the little day-to-day things. I love it."

The Anastos, who have been living in their 25th Street home for five and a half of their six years of marriage, agree that sleep deprivation has been the toughest challenge so far. But the biggest surprise, says Chris, has been "an incredible sense of satisfaction."

"I feel very bonded, very much a family unit. Having a child has cemented our marriage, taken it into the future," she says.

Now that they're old pros, the Anastos advise potential parents that there is only one good reason to have a child. "Want them!" insists John. "You don't have a kid for any other reason."

"And don't try to do it to save your marriage," warns Chris.

But if you do decide to go for it, it can be a "wonderful adjustment," she adds reassuringly. "We treasure the peace and happiness that comes from living in a quiet, happy home, just watching Ross grow." □



John and Chris Anastos with baby Ross Montgomery Anastos. Photo by Judy Allen

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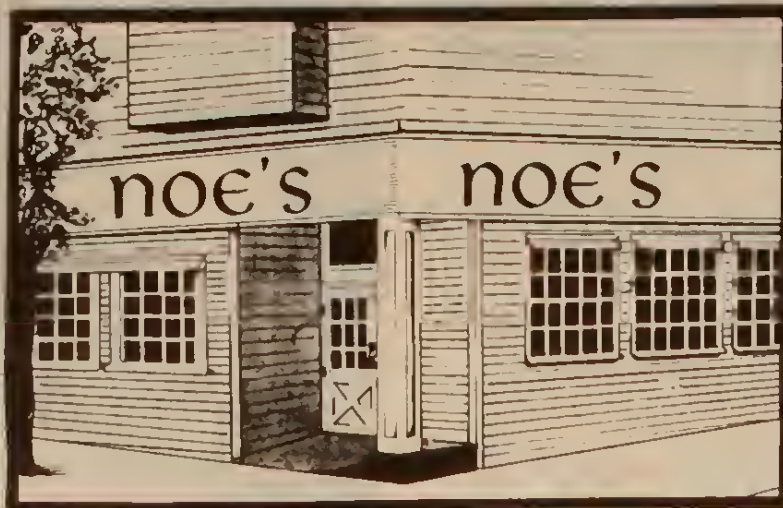
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 415/885-2929

Sunday, November 8 1 pm
 Marin Community Playhouse
 27 Kensington Road, San Anselmo
 415/456-8555

November 15 11 am
 Bay Area Dance Series at Laney Theatre
 900 Fallon Street, Oakland
 415/464-3543

Salurday, November 28 11 am
 Sunnyvale Performing Arts Center
 550 East Remington Drive, Sunnyvale
 408/733-6611

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*On October 31 only, the performance will be followed by a Halloween Party at Ghirardelli Square. Tickets for the party can be obtained at the Waterfront Theatre Box Office for an additional \$5. Children are invited to attend both the performance and the party in costume.



• MORE Books to Read •

Here's a sample of new books received at the Noe Valley Library during the month of September. Branch hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays; 1 to 9 p.m., Wednesdays; and 1 to 6 p.m., Thursday through Saturday. The library is located at 451 Jersey St. (near Castro); phone 285-2788.

Adult Fiction

Savages—Shirley Conran
Her Mother's Daughter—Marilyn French
A Southern Family—Gail Godwin
Agents of Innocence—David Ignatius
Touch—Elmore Leonard
The Splendid Outcast: Beryl Markham's African Stories
Talking to Strange Men—Ruth Rendell
Crossing to Safety—W. Stegner
Out on the Rim—Ross Thomas

Adult Nonfiction

Family: the Ties That Bind... and Gag!—Erma Bombeck
Out of Control: Confessions of an NFL Casualty—Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson and Peter Knobler
The Making of "The African Queen"—Katharine Hepburn
Independent Musicians Guide to Survival in the Bay Area

It's All in the Playing—Shirley MacLaine
On Glory Roads: a Pilgrim's Book About Pilgrimage—Eleanor Munro
William Faulkner, the Man and the Artist—Stephen B. Oates
Vivien: the Life of Vivien Leigh—Alexander Walker
Kids' Games: Traditional Indoor and Outdoor Activities for Children of All Ages—Phil Wiswell

Children's Fiction

The Ugly Duckling—H. C. Anderson (book plus cassette, narrated by Cher)
The High Hills—Jill Barklem
Aliens in the Family—Margaret Mahy
Happy Birthday, Grampie—Susan Pearson
Chipmunk Song—Joanne Ryder

Children's Nonfiction

Who's That Stepping on Plymouth Rock?—Jean Fritz
The Palestinians—David McDowall
World's Toughest Tongue Twisters—Joseph Rosenbloom
Science Works: 65 Experiments That Introduce the Fun and Wonder of Science
A New Look at the Pilgrims: Why They Came to America—Beatrice Siegel

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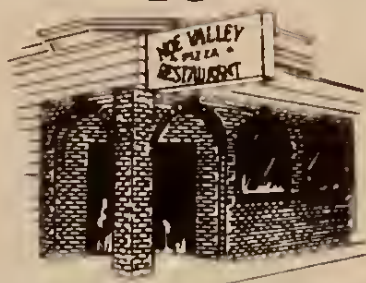
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CALENDAR

OCT. 31: Intersection for the Arts celebrates its second annual HALLOWEEN BENEFIT, "Nightmare on Valencia Street II." 766 Valencia St. 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. 626-3311

OCT. 31: The spirits of Halloween request the presence of all ghosts and goblins at Noe Valley's seventh annual HAUNTED HOUSE. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez streets 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. 285-6265

NOV. 1 & 15: The Friends of the Public Library help fund free library programs, book acquisitions and special projects with a MINI BOOK SALE. Fort Mason, Buildings A (Nov. 1) and F (Nov. 15) 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. 558-3857

NOV. 1-14: Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24 presents its 17th annual celebration of DIA DE LOS MUERTOS, a Mexican holiday commemorating the dead, featuring a display and sale of folk art, mixed media art exhibits, workshops in paper mache sculpture and a candlelight procession followed by a dance/reception. 2851 24th St. Gallery hours Tues. - Sat. 1-6 p.m. (Studio 24, noon-6 p.m.) 826-8809

NOV. 1-30: Modern Times Bookstore presents "Looking Back," a PHOTO/COLLAGES EXHIBIT created from Cathy Gade's new book, *A Lesbian Photo Album*. 968 Valencia St. Reception, Sunday, Nov. 22, 5-30 p.m. 282-9246

NOV. 2-24: The Performance Construction Company presents "Harris Colby: Dead Man-Live Letters," Simon Kelly's MYSTERY/COMEDY about New Age consciousness in the yuppie'd '80s. Studio Eremos, Project Artaud, 401 Alabama St. 8-30 p.m. 621-8875

NOV. 4: MARION ZIMMER BRAOLEY, author of *The Mists of Avalon*, introduces her new novel, *The Firebrand*, a retelling of the Trojan War from a woman's point of view. "Old Wives' Tales," 1009 Valencia St. 7-30 p.m. 821-4675

NOV. 5, 12, 19, 26: McAleer High School peer counseling students offer advice on TEEN LINE, a call-in talk show by and for teenagers. KALW 91.7 FM. 7-30 p.m. 641-KALW

NOV. 6: Glen Park Recreation Center invites kids 2-5 to a free PRE-SCHOOL MUSIC and recorder class. Bosworth Street and O'Shaughnessy Boulevard 3:30-5 p.m. 558-4433

NOV. 6: LINDA MAGALLON, editor of the Dream Network Bulletin, takes dream-workers on a tour of "punny" dreams, humorous nightmares and hypnagogic images, and tickles your dream funnybone along the way. The Dream House, 395 Sussex St. 7-30 p.m. 239-6906

NOV. 6 & 7: Merle (Ian Shoales) Kessler and J. Roat Brody host a SONG FEST featuring the Experimental Love Band, with guest artists Brian Lohmann, O-Lan Jones, Paul Codiga, Mark Petrakis and others. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8-15 p.m. 282-2317

NOV. 6-21: Intersection for the Arts presents the performance group HYENA CABARET in "My Mother Has Rabies." 766 Valencia St. 10-30 p.m. 626-3311

NOV. 6-28: Performing artists group CONTRABAND presents "The (In)visible War," a duet about the failure of the intellect, with an original score by Rinde Eckert and live sound by Jules Jonas Beckman. Mariposa Studio, 2880 Mariposa in Project Artaud. 8-30 p.m. 558-8821

NOV. 7: People of all ages are invited to Eureka Valley Playground's 30-year REUNION, "Return to the Valley," for a spaghetti feed, sock hop and lots of reminiscing. Bring desserts to share. 100 Collingwood St. 4-10 p.m. 863-3531

NOV. 9: BARB WEISER, wilderness guide, feminist book publisher and co-editor of *Rivers Running Free: Stories of Adventurous Women*, presents a slide show and reading about women's writings on wilderness travel. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7-30 p.m. 282-9246

NOV. 10: The Noe Valley Library presents a PUPPET SHOW by the Witch Hazel Puppet Theater for kids 3-5. 451 Jersey St. 2 p.m. 285-2778

NOV. 10: ALUMNAE RESOURCES sponsors "The World of Work—Future Tense," a lecture by career consultant Dr. Ferne Cherne focusing on the baby boom, high technology and job changing. 660 Mission St. Noon-2 p.m. 546-0125

NOV. 10: Get feedback from peers or listen to works in progress at an OPEN FICTION READING co-sponsored by the National Writers Union and Modern Times Bookstore. 968 Valencia St. 282-9246

NOV. 10-OEC. 15: Learn a variety of lucid dreaming techniques in an intensive DREAM WORKSHOP with Fariba Bogzaran and Daryl E. Hewitt. The Dream House, 3995 Sussex St. 7-30-9-30 p.m. 285-8409

NOV. 11: Join a GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION group for this month's look at *On Liberty* by John Stuart Mill. Upper Noe Valley Recreation Center, Sanchez and Day streets. 7-30-9-30 p.m. 285-8409

NOV. 11-14: Guillermo Gomez-Pena and Emily Hicks explore border mythologies, U.S./Mexican relations and the Mexican/American experience in California with their MULTIMEDIA POETRY performance of "Calitas." Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St. 8 p.m. 626-3311

NOV. 11-14: The Edge Festival presents an evening of choreographer KIMI OKADA'S work as performed by DDC/San Francisco at Footwork Studio, 3221 22nd St. 8-30 p.m. 824-5044

NOV. 12: The Roxie Cinema presents "Acting Our Age," an hour-long DOCUMENTARY about women's experiences aging in contemporary America. 3117 16th St. 431-1180

NOV. 13: The National Garment Workers Union of Mexico presents the FILM "We're Not Asking for the Moon" followed by a talk on Mexican working women's struggle to build an independent union. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 7-30 p.m. 326-4685

NOV. 13 & 14: Comedian/mime/actor GEOFF HOYLE gives a special solo performance at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

NOV. 13, 14, 15: Dancer MARGARET BEALS performs her autobiographical work, "Stories from a Dancer's Life," directed by Tony Tanner. Centospace Studio Theater, 2840 Mariposa St. 8-30 p.m. 861-5059

NOV. 13-29: The Victoria Theater presents a revival of "LADIES AGAINST WOMEN: An Evening of Consciousness Lowering." 16th and Mission streets. 8-30 p.m. 763-8163

NOV. 17: The Noe Valley Library offers a FILM PRESENTATION of "Where the Wild Things Are," "Dark, Dark Tale," and other scary fare for ages 3-5. 451 Jersey St. 10 & 11 a.m. 285-2788



Cutumay Camone declares that "El Salvador Vencera" in a musical performance at the "New" York Theater on Nov. 14

NOV. 14: Musical group CUTUMAY CAMONES, in its second national U.S. tour, sings new songs of the Salvadoran people's struggle for liberty and independence. New York Theater, 2879 24th St. 8 p.m. 282-3094

NOV. 14: Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services sponsors "Women of Color Forum: HEALTH AND HEALING," with speakers Carmen Carrillo, Felicia Ward, Charlene Doria Ortiz, Debbie Lee and others. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 9-30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 641-0220

NOV. 14: Poet and playwright PIRI THOMAS, author of "Down These Mean Streets," headlines an evening of poetry and music, together with poet/musician Avolga and singers Lichi Fuente and Jose Luis Orozco. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Puerto Rican dinner, 6 p.m., poetry and music, 7-30 p.m. 873-0522

NOV. 14 & 15: Miraloma Cooperative Nursery School holds its annual fall GARAGE SALE, featuring a silent auction of new and used merchandise. 443 Foerster St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 585-6789

NOV. 15: Speakers KAREN KOONAN, BETH YOUHN and BILLY NESSEN analyze political struggles within the movements of the '60s, '70s and '80s. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7 p.m. 282-9246

NOV. 15, 21, 22: Come to a HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE featuring handcrafted ceramics, jewelry, designer sweaters and lots of yarn. 221 Fair Oaks St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

NOV. 16 & 23: The Talking Dance Project presents "Healing Ritual. Dancer as Medium" with ANNA HAL-PRIN (Nov. 16) and "Acts of Confession Dance as Private Lives" with JOE GOOOE and RUTH ZAPORAH (Nov. 23). New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 8 p.m. 863-9834

NOV. 18: Ellriede Preger gives a free SLIDE TALK, "Women in Art and Women Artists." Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2877

NOV. 19: The Mission Branch Library presents the FILM "Hands to Work, Hearts to God" about New England's Shakers, a 200-year-old spiritual community. 3359 24th St. 7 p.m. 824-2810

NOV. 20: MARY DALY, author of *Beyond God the Father*, reads from her new Webster's First New Intergalactic Wickedary of the English Language, a work designed to free language from the "academized fraternities of Bearded Brother No-il-alls." "Old Wives' Tales," 1009 Valencia St. 7-30 p.m. 821-4676

NOV. 20-OEC. 12: Phase One Productions presents a series of ONE-ACT PLAYS: "Curtains" by Craig Sjogren, "Rockabye" by Samuel Beckett and "A Nice Day for the Beach" by C. D. Arnold. Company in Flight Theatre, 333 Colores St. Fri. & Sat., 8-30 p.m., Sun., 8-10 p.m. 864-0235

NOV. 21: PEPPINO D'AGOSTINO and LARRY KASSIN perform solos and duos in an evening of guitar and flute wizardry. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8-15 p.m. 282-2317

NOV. 21: Voice your politics at a SPEAK-OUT FOR ABORTION RIGHTS sponsored by the Pro-Choice Coalition of Northern California, the Coalition of Labor Union Women and other community organizations. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 1-30 p.m. 641-0873

NOV. 22: Cover to Cover Booksellers hosts a wine and cheese BOOK PARTY for Noe Valley novelist Richard Muir, author of *The Miniature Man*. 3910 24th St. 2-4 p.m. 282-8080

NOV. 29: Rikudom, the oldest Israeli folk dance group in the U.S., celebrates its 35th anniversary FOLK DANCE PARTY with an exhibition, refreshments, instruction, singing and request dancing. Bethany Church Hall, 126B Sanchez St. 7 p.m. 647-2483

NOVEMBER 1987

NOV. 4: New city librarian KEN DOWLIN meets with Noe Valley patrons. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 8-30-9 p.m. 285-2788

NOV. 4, 5, 6, 7: In an hour-long monologue titled "The Constant State of Desire," New York performance artist KAREN FINLEY assumes a succession of female personas while deconstructing gender traditions. Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St. 626-3311

NOV. 4, 18, 25: The Noe Valley Library offers an INFANT-TOOOLER LAPSIT for infants to 3 years. 451 Jersey St. 7 p.m. 285-2788

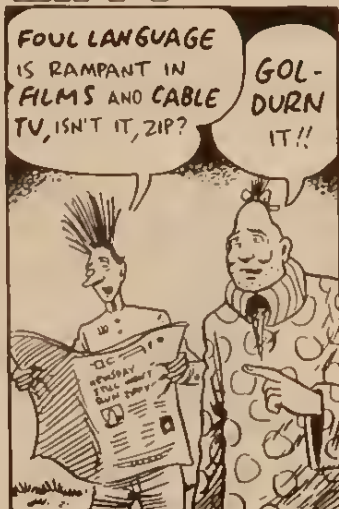
NOV. 5: Join author JOHN LANTIGUA for a book party and reading of his new novel, *Heat Lightning*, a murder mystery involving Salvadoran death squads set in the Mission District. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7-30 p.m. 282-9246

NOV. 7: The Endangered Species Alliance presents its second annual Upper 24th Street MUSIC FESTIVAL with 20-30 local rock, folk, jazz and other performing groups appearing simultaneously at Cork 'N' Bottle, Dubliner, 1st Inning, Noebody's Inn, Noe's and Patch County. Proceeds go to benefit the Jamestown Youth Center and the S.F. Child Abuse Council. 1-7 p.m. 282-4007

NOV. 8: A Lesbian and Gay PARENTING FAIRE sponsored by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, The Lesbian Rights Project and the S.F. Women's Building provides information booths, workshops, crafts, food, entertainment and activities for kids. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 641-0220

NOV. 8: Operation Concern hosts an afternoon of BRUNCH AND GAMES for older gay men (60 plus). Bring food to share. 145 Guerrero St. Noon-3 p.m. 626-7000

ZIPPY



"CURSES, FOILED AGAIN"



BILL GRIFFITH



The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The next Voice will be a double issue, covering the months of December 1987 and January 1988. It will appear Dec. 1. The deadline for calendar items is Nov. 15.